



Troubled Sky

Trump dismantling US climate efforts as warnings grow dire

In this Nov. 26, 2018, photo, President Donald Trump speaks to members of the media before boarding Marine One on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington. Associated Press
Page 3



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Enclave on edge as mystery persists in mansion fire, deaths

By **MARYCLAIRE DALE**, Associated Press

COLTS NECK, N.J. (AP) —

When a landscaper alerted Boris Volshteyn to smoke pouring out of a nearby mansion, the plastic surgeon hurried home and found his friend and neighbor lying face down out front. His first thought was to try CPR, but it was no use.

Keith Caneiro, a 50-year-old technology executive, had been shot in the head. Hopes that Caneiro's wife and two young children weren't inside as the inferno raged from early afternoon the Tuesday before Thanksgiving until at least midnight were dashed when they failed to turn up elsewhere. Friends who had gathered outside called the children's school



In this Nov. 21, 2018 file photo, authorities gather in Colts Neck, N.J., to investigate the aftermath of fatal fire that killed two children and two adults.

and Jennifer Caneiro's cellphone.

"When the kids were not in school, and Jennifer was not answering, it all became a grim picture," Volshteyn told The Asso-

ciated Press on Tuesday.

"To the very last minute, all the neighbors were hoping that the kids were spared." As they puzzled over the bizarre crime in pastoral Colts Neck, a wealthy enclave

for horse breeders, hedge fund managers and celebrities near the northern New Jersey coast, Caneiro's business partner and brother, Paul, was charged with setting his own family home on fire earlier the same day.

But no one has been charged yet in the Colts Neck slayings, Paul Caneiro was seen elsewhere during the fire there, and authorities have not said how the other family members died. "We have a lot of jittery people that have questions that we don't have answers to," said Mayor J.P. Bartolomeo, who nonetheless said that he believes the crime was an isolated one and that the community is safe.

Paul Caneiro, 51, who remains in custody, had a detention hearing moved from Wednesday to Friday so his lawyer can review new evidence from prosecutors.

His wife and young adult daughters may testify, to say he saved them from the 5 a.m. fire by awakening them, lawyer Robert A. Honecker Jr. said.

"His family is supportive of him and wants to see him come home," said Honecker, a former prosecutor in Monmouth County. "He's been living in that house for over 20 years. He's got two businesses that need to be run. And he's got no prior record."

Police say Paul Caneiro used gasoline to fuel the fire at his two-story Colonial in Ocean Township, about 10 miles from his brother's jarringly modern, all-white \$1.5 million home in Colts Neck, which sits next to a small organic farm with sheep dotting the pasture. Paul Caneiro was seen outside his own burning home with his family throughout that morning, visibly upset. Honecker said he went from there to the police station for an interview around noon and was there when he learned his brother's family had been killed.

"He's never been charged with anything in Colts Neck," Honecker said. "He is obviously still devastated

by the news of his brother and his family's deaths."

Paul and Keith Caneiro were the principals in two businesses, a computer systems company called Square One and a pest control business, both housed above a trendy cafe in Asbury Park. Workers in the area frequently saw Paul Caneiro there. Keith Caneiro often worked from home, Volshteyn said. Keith Caneiro, the middle of three brothers, appeared to be the picture of a self-made man. He took classes at Brooklyn College after high school and worked for free at a computer store to learn the ropes, according to a 2001 article on Square One in the Asbury Park Press, in which Caneiro identified himself as Keith Martin.

The company, then known as Jay-Martin Consulting after the brothers' middle names, had 26 employees at the time and installed computer systems for Citibank and interactive kiosks at the Statue of Liberty.

Paul was his brother's first hire.

The company, and the brothers, moved from Brooklyn to the quieter New Jersey suburbs as the brothers married and had children. Obituaries describe Keith's children as 11-year-old Jesse, who liked World War I and II history, video games and sports, and 8-year-old Sophia, who loved ice skating, ninja classes and making cookies with her nanny. Funeral services for the family are planned Sunday.

In recent years, Keith Caneiro had earned a bachelor's from Columbia University's general studies program and, just this year, a master's degree from its School of Professional Studies.

Family members, including a third brother, have declined to speak to The Associated Press this month. Prosecutors said at an early news conference that the Colts Neck slayings were "targeted." They plan a news conference Thursday on the mansion fire. □

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Trump dismantling US climate efforts as warnings grow dire

From Front

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has moved steadily to dismantle Obama administration efforts to rein in coal, oil and gas emissions, even as warnings grow — from his own administration and others — about the devastating impact of climate change on the U.S. economy as well as the Earth.

Trump has dismissed his administration's warnings about the impact of climate change, including a forecast released Friday that it could lead to economic losses of hundreds of billions of dollars a year by the end of the century.

"As to whether or not it's man-made and whether or not the effects that you're talking about are there, I don't see it," he said in an interview Tuesday with The Washington Post.

Trump's position has been that efforts to combat the emissions that cause climate change have hurt the U.S. economy.

Announcing the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris global climate accord in June 2017, he said, "The Paris Climate Accord is simply the latest example of Washington entering into an agreement that disadvantages the United States to the exclusive benefit of other countries, leaving American workers — who I love — and taxpayers to absorb the cost in terms of lost jobs, lower wages, shuttered factories, and vastly diminished economic production."

An email obtained by The Associated Press under the Freedom of Information Act shows the administration withdrew from the Paris agreement with no clear climate policy in place.

"All, the purpose of this meeting is to explore whether, post Paris, we need to develop, or simply piece together from what already exists, a policy proposal that can be characterized as the 'Trump climate policy,'" Michael Catanzaro, a former oil



President Donald Trump speaks to members of the media before boarding Marine One on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, Monday, Nov. 26, 2018, for a short trip to Andrews Air Force Base, Md., and then on to Mississippi for rallies.

and gas lobbyist then serving as Trump's energy and environment consultant, wrote to White House and Environmental Protection Agency officials days after the president's announcement.

The EPA did not respond to requests for details on the meeting, or on any subsequent Trump climate policy.

In an email Wednesday, the State Department noted that the United States is still taking part in global climate talks, despite pulling out of the Paris accord. That includes a State Department delegation to U.N. climate talks starting next week in Poland, in follow-up to the Paris talks.

"The United States continues to participate in ongoing international climate negotiations including those related to guidance for implementing the Paris Agreement to ensure a level playing field that benefits the United States, its workers, and its taxpayers," the department said in a statement.

The initial shock of the abrupt U.S. retreat from the Paris accord galvanized international support for climate efforts, said Nigel Purvis, who worked on climate issues in the Clinton and George W. Bush administrations.

It "brought other nations

even closer together and they're even more committed," Purvis said. In the longer term, though, the Trump administration's retreat on climate change may hurt, showing governments and companies they can flout global concerns about coal, oil and gas emissions and not be held

accountable, he said.

At home, the Trump administration has initiated a rollback of a complex Obama-era effort to power the nation's electrical grid with more renewable energy and less climate-altering coal.

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Associated Press.

Trump told a cheering crowd in West Virginia this summer, touting that rollback. Many economists challenge his claim, arguing that cheaper natural gas and other market forces will mean the continued downward slump of the U.S. coal industry.

The Obama plan had aimed at cutting U.S. emissions of climate-changing carbon dioxide about one-third by 2030.

Separately, the country's auto industry already is adjusting to the Trump administration's announcement in August that it would ease Obama-era mileage standards.

In October, almost 65 percent of new vehicles sold in the U.S. were trucks or SUVs. Reporters asked General Motors CEO Mary Barra this week if the Trump administration's relaxation of the fuel economy standards played into the automaker's announcement that it may close up to five North American car plants. "We intend on meeting the standards whatever they are," Barra responded. □

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Suddenly, luxury stores miss free-spending Chinese tourists

By **MICHELLE CHAPMAN AND ANNE D'INNOCENZIO**, AP Business Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — There was something missing at the luxury jeweler Tiffany & Co. in recent months: Chinese tourists.

For the second time in as many months, a big seller of high-end goods noticed that a particularly crucial demographic of its shopping base had made itself sparse, damaging sales and stoking fears of worse to come.

On Wednesday, shares of Tiffany & Co. plunged 12 percent after reporting weaker-than-expected sales in its third quarter. CEO Alessandro Bogliolo said that Chinese tourists



In this Monday, May 22, 2017, photo, a gift box from Tiffany & Co. is arranged for a photo in Surfside, Fla. Tiffany & Co. Associated Press.

have failed to show up, and open wallets up, with the same vigor that they had in the past.

Last month, the owner of Louis Vuitton noted the

same phenomenon of dwindling Chinese tourists. Shares in that company were hit hard as well.

Tiffany is considered a bellwether for luxury goods,

which is why shares of Ralph Lauren and Movado also fell on Wednesday, even as the broader stock market climbed sharply.

Tiffany's third-quarter revenue rose 4 percent to just above \$1 billion, yet industry analysts were anticipating a bigger boost. Part of the reason for the surprise was fewer tourists, particularly Chinese tourists, at stores in places like New York and Hong Kong.

"We don't see a slowdown of demand by the Chinese. What we see is that Chinese tourists are traveling less," said Bogliolo in a phone interview Wednesday.

In fact, Bogliolo said that Tiffany's business in mainland China remains strong, achieving double digit sales growth throughout the year. In response to the shift, Tiffany's is increasing its inventory at its stores in Mainland China so it's not missing out on any sales.

Bogliolo speculated that the deteriorating value of China's currency is to blame for the drop in Chinese tourists.

The yuan, also known as the renminbi, or "people's money," sank to a 10-year low against the dollar at the end of October. It strengthened slightly this month, leading many to believe that Beijing has stepped in to stop its slide.

But others see broader issues at play, including a simmering trade war and the potential for a slowing global economy that is squeezing even the wealthy in China.

"There are major strains in our political relationship with the Chinese government," said Robert Burke, a luxury consultant in New York. "It doesn't put them in the mood to come to the U.S. to spend their hard

earned dollars. They do have the option to buy in mainland China."

While the number of people visiting the U.S. from China grew 4 percent in 2017, according to the U.S. National Travel and Tourism Office, that was down sharply from the 16 percent jump in 2016. It's not a healthy trend for sellers of high-end goods. Burke estimates that as much 30 percent of luxury goods sales globally are made to tourists from China. Dan Jasper, a spokesman at Mall of America's, the nation's largest shopping mall, noted that Chinese tourists tend to be more likely to purchase higher end items including luxury cosmetics, jewelry, clothing and electronics. He said that the number of Chinese tourists to the center continues to grow at a "modest rate."

What may have exacerbated fears Wednesday is that prevailing wisdom has held that consumer spending from China in the high-end luxury shops of the West would not only continue, but that it would grow stronger.

In a study published this month, the Bain consultancy said that Chinese consumers will fuel nearly half of global high-end sales by 2025.

Chinese shoppers will account for 46 percent of global luxury sales of an estimated \$412 billion in just six years, Bain said in the study, which was prepared for Italy's Altagamma association of high-end producers.

Even before the Trump administration ratcheted up the intensity of its trade dialogue with Beijing, there were signs that economic growth in China was slowing. □

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Senate defies Trump, showing anger with Saudis for Khashoggi

By MARY CLARE

JALONICK and SUSANNAH
GEORGE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defying President Donald Trump, senators sent a strong signal Wednesday they want to punish Saudi Arabia for its role in the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi. By a bipartisan 63-37, the Senate voted to move forward with legislation calling for an end to U.S. involvement in the Saudi-led war in Yemen.

The vote was a rebuke not only to Saudi Arabia but also to Trump's administration, which has made clear it does not want to torpedo the longstanding U.S. relationship with Riyadh over the killing.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Secretary of Defense James Mattis both came to Capitol Hill to urgently lobby against the resolution, which would call for an end to U.S. military assistance for the conflict that human rights advocates say is wreaking havoc on Yemen and subjecting civilians to indiscriminate bombing.

The vote showed a significant number of Republicans were willing to break with Trump to express their deep dissatisfaction with Saudi Arabia and with the U.S. response to Khashoggi's brutal killing in Turkey last month. U.S. intelligence officials have concluded that the Saudi crown prince, Mohammed bin Salman, must have at least known of the plot, but Trump has equivocated over who was to blame. Khashoggi, who lived in the U.S. and wrote for The Washington Post, was publicly critical of the Saudi crown prince. He was killed in what U.S. officials have described as an elaborate plot at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, which he had visited for marriage paperwork.

Echoing Trump's public comments on the killing, Pompeo said after Wednesday's briefing with senators that there was "no direct reporting" connecting the crown prince to the murder, and Mattis



Secretary of State Mike Pompeo walks up to the microphones to speak to members of the media after leaving a closed door meeting about Saudi Arabia, Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

said there was "no smoking gun" making the connection.

Pompeo argued that the war in Yemen would be "a hell of a lot worse" if the United States were not involved.

Wednesday's procedural vote sets up a floor debate on the resolution next week. It would be largely a symbolic move, however, as House Republican leaders have given no indication they would take up the war powers measure before the end of the year — the end of the current Congress.

Several senators said they were angry about the absence of CIA Director Gina Haspel from the pre-vote briefing.

New Jersey Sen. Bob Menendez, the top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, speculated that Haspel didn't attend because she "would have said with a high degree of confidence that the crown prince of Saudi Arabia was involved in the murder of Jamal Khashoggi."

And Lindsey Graham, the South Carolina Republican who is often strongly allied with Trump, voted to move forward with the resolution and said he would insist on a briefing from Haspel. He even threatened to withhold his vote on key mea-

sures if that didn't happen and declared, "I'm not going to blow past this."

CIA press secretary Timothy Barrett said that no one kept Haspel away from the briefing.

He said CIA had already briefed the Senate intelligence committee and Senate leaders and "will continue to provide updates on this important matter to policymakers and Congress."

In another explanation, a White House official said Haspel decided not to participate in part because of frustration with lawmakers leaking classified intelligence from such settings. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss internal matters. □



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Ivanka Trump says 'Lock her up!' doesn't apply in her case

By Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ivanka Trump defended her use of a private email account as she was moving into an adviser's position in her father's administration, saying that it cannot be compared to the flap over former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's private email server and that "Lock her up!" doesn't apply to her.

"All of my emails are stored and preserved. There were no deletions," President Donald Trump's elder daughter and adviser told ABC News in an interview broadcast Wednesday.

The Washington Post reported this month that Ivanka Trump sent hundreds of emails about government business from a personal email account last year to White House aides, Cabinet members and her assistant, many in violation of public records rules.

"There is no restriction of using personal email," she said. "In fact, we're instructed that if we receive an email to our personal account that could relate to government work, you simply just forward it to your government account so it can be archived."

Clinton used a personal



Ivanka Trump looks back at supporters and protestors as she enters Wilder Elementary School in Wilder, Idaho, Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018.

email account linked to a private server at her home in Chappaqua, a New York City suburb, during her time as the top U.S. diplomat under President Barack Obama. The FBI found classified information in some of the emails that were sent or received through her private server.

Donald Trump harshly

criticized Clinton, his 2016 Democratic presidential rival, for her use of the private email server. Trump dubbed her "Crooked Hillary" and repeatedly said, including to her face, that she belonged in jail. At his campaign rallies, chants of "Lock her up!" rang out.

Ivanka Trump was asked by ABC News, "So the idea of

'Lock her up!' doesn't apply to you?"

"No," she replied.

Referencing her father's denunciations of Clinton's private email server, she said, "There's no equivalency to what my father's spoken about."

Clinton deleted thousands of emails that she and her lawyers decided were per-

Associated Press.

sonal or unrelated to her work as secretary of state before she turned over thousands of other emails to federal investigators. She said she had been unaware of rules against using private email to conduct the public's business and said she never knowingly emailed classified information.

Republicans and Democrats on Capitol Hill plan to scrutinize Ivanka Trump's personal email use. The Republican chairmen of Senate and House oversight committees — as well as a top House Democrat who will be wielding a gavel when his party takes power in January — have called on the White House to provide more information about the email account and the nature of her messages.

That would renew Republican-led congressional probes that had languished since last year when reports by Politico revealed that Ivanka Trump's husband, Jared Kushner, and other White House officials had been using private email for government purposes in possible violation of the Presidential Records Act and other federal record-keeping laws. □

Utility: Weather didn't warrant power shut off as fire raged

By KATHLEEN RONAYNE, Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)

— Flames already were tearing through a Northern California town earlier this month when Pacific Gas & Electric Co. made the decision that improved weather conditions meant it wouldn't have to shut off power to the area as a precaution against wildfires, according to documents filed by the utility.

PG&E explained its decision not to follow through on warnings that it might shut off power in a filing late Tuesday with the state Public Utilities Commission.

It came as PG&E faces lawsuits regarding the cause of the fire that killed at least 88 people and destroyed 13,000 homes in the Para-



In this Nov. 9, 2018 file photo, Pacific Gas & Electric crews work to restore power lines in Paradise, Calif.

Associated Press

dise area. PG&E has previously reported a power outage occurred on one of its transmission lines around the time the fire began, at 6:30 a.m. on Nov. 8. It also has said a transmission line malfunctioned a short time

after the fire sparked, another possible source being investigated by officials.

Two days earlier, the utility had warned roughly 70,000 customers across nine counties that it might shut off power due to fire risks

from high winds and low humidity. By 1 p.m. on Nov. 8, the utility determined weather conditions no longer warranted a potential shut-off, according to the Tuesday filing. The decision came even though a National Weather Service red flag warning remained in effect for Northern California involving "extreme fire conditions" from wind gusts up to 55 mph (86 kph) and low humidity. The fast-moving fire already had destroyed parts of Paradise and surrounding towns.

"Based on the forecasted information, PG&E no longer anticipated a possible need to de-energize," the filing said. "PG&E immediately informed all stakeholders of the change in conditions and that no lines

would be proactively de-energized."

The utility began the program to pre-emptively shut off power during dangerous fire conditions after last year's devastating wildfires in Northern California wine country. The power shut-offs are "not deployed as a response to an active fire," spokeswoman Megan McFarland said in a Wednesday email.

However, the utility will de-energize lines during emergencies if requested by state fire officials to protect first responders, McFarland said.

If the utility does discontinue power due to weather conditions, it shuts off distribution lines, not transmission lines that are higher voltage, McFarland said. □



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Patagonia gives GOP tax windfall to environmental groups

By Associated Press

VENTURA, Calif. (AP) — Patagonia, the outdoor gear company, is passing along the \$10 million it saved from tax cuts to non-profit environmental groups.

Corporations received a windfall from the GOP's sweeping overhaul of the U.S. tax code last year, which slashed corporate rates from 35 percent, to 21 percent. The California company said Wednesday that the donation is in addition to 1 percent of sales it gives to environmental groups every year. The donation is being made on the heels of the recent National Climate Assessment,



This photo shows the Patagonia logo on items in the brand section of a retail department store Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018, in New York.

Associated Press

which Patagonia cited in its announcement.

"Our government continues to ignore the serious-

ness and causes of the climate crisis. It is pure evil," said Yvon Chouinard, Patagonia's founder. "We need

to double down on renewable energy solutions. We need an agriculture system that supports small family farms and ranches, not one that rewards chemical companies intent on destroying our planet and poisoning our food. And we need to protect our public lands and waters because they are all we have left." The report warned that natural disasters are worsening in the U.S. because of global warming. It said violent weather and floods have led to costs of nearly \$400 billion since 2015 and the potential for annual losses hundreds of billions of dollars. Though economists

agree with the general financial conclusions related to climate change, President Donald Trump has rejected the report's assessment regarding the potential economic impact. Patagonia, based in Ventura, California, has joined a flurry of lawsuits challenging Trump's decision to chop up two large national monuments in Utah. It also endorsed Democratic Sens.-elect Jon Tester of Montana and Jacky Rosen of Nevada, both who won against GOP incumbents. The company described them as champions of public lands and the outdoor industry. □

Authorities ID body as kidnapped North Carolina teen girl

By Associated Press

LUMBERTON, N.C. (AP) — A body found in North Carolina has been preliminarily identified as a 13-year-old girl kidnapped outside her home, investigators said Wednesday, ending a three-week search involving hundreds of investigators.

Lumberton Police Chief Michael McNeill told reporters at a news conference that state crime lab tests indicate the body found late Tuesday is Hania Aguilar. While a final determination will be made with dental records, investigators believe the body is hers.

"This is the outcome that we all feared," he said. "We did not want to hear this.

We wanted to bring Hania back home and bring her



This Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018, photo provided by FBI shows Hania Noelia Aguilar, the day before she went missing in Lumberton, N.C. Investigators believe a body found in North Carolina is Aguilar.

Associated Press

back home alive to our community. It hurts."

He pledged to bring whoever is responsible to justice. Investigators said they don't currently have a sus-

pect or person of interest.

The chief said Hania's body was found in a body of water in Robeson County about 10 miles (16 kilometers) south of the mobile

home park where she was kidnapped on Nov. 5 after going outside to start a relative's SUV before school.

Authorities wouldn't elaborate on whether the body had been concealed, but said it was not visible from the road or obvious to people passing by. Investigators spent Wednesday combing the area in daylight after finding the body the previous night.

The cause of death hasn't been released, pending an autopsy. Investigators would not describe the condition of the body. An FBI official said he did not have any information as to whether Hania was killed where she was found or elsewhere.

Police say a man forced Hania into an SUV and drove off. The SUV was

found several miles south of her mobile home park. The body was found a few miles farther away.

McNeill has previously said that a witness saw a man dressed in black with a yellow bandanna grab Hania in the Rosewood Mobile Home Park in Lumberton. Police say the eighth grader had taken her aunt's keys to start the vehicle to prepare to leave for the bus stop. They say the man forced her into the green Ford Expedition and drove off.

The FBI soon joined the search, offering reward money and transmitting her picture around the country. The SUV was found abandoned several days later, but signs of the girl or her remains eluded investigators for several weeks. □

Poland says US ambassador's letter won't spoil good ties

Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland (AP) —

The Polish government said Wednesday that a letter from the U.S. ambassador that took it to task over its treatment of a U.S.-owned television station and misspelled the prime minister's last name won't spoil "very good" bilateral ties.

The letter from Ambassador Georgette Mosbacher to Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki circulated in Polish media Tuesday, drawing angry comments from politicians and ordinary Poles who found its tone and the mistakes disrespectful. But some praised Mosbacher for defending media freedom.

Mosbacher wrote to express "deep concern" over the right-wing government's criticism of TVN, a Polish broadcaster owned by the U.S. company Discovery. TVN is seen in Poland as being critical of the conservative government. Government spokeswoman Joanna Kopcinska said in a statement that Poland



In this Sept. 6, 2018 file photo, Georgette Mosbacher stands next to an American flag after receiving her credentials as new United States ambassador to Poland in Warsaw.

Associated Press

and the U.S. enjoy "very good relations and one incident will not change that."

She said the government wouldn't comment on the letter's content or it being leaked to the media.

"In our opinion diplomacy calls for calm and prudence," the statement said.

Defense Minister Mariusz Blaszczak called it a "misunderstanding" resulting from businesswoman Mosbacher's lack of experience in diplomacy.

Poland and the U.S. have close military ties and Blaszczak said his cooperation with Mosbacher, who was appointed by President Donald Trump, was

"very efficient" as Poland is lobbying to host a U.S. military base that it has promised to call "Fort Trump."

Mosbacher tweeted Wednesday to confirm that ties are "very good" and that her priority was to strengthen bilateral "friendship."

But she stressed that the freedom of speech, of the media and of the intellectual discourse were of very high importance to the U.S. and to her personally.

U.S. State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said that Mosbacher is doing a "great job" of representing the U.S. in Poland and that she "represents our ideals and values."

Support for Mosbacher came also from Poland's democracy icon and former president, Lech Walesa, who said she was right to react to the pressure on journalists because the government's methods are "terrible."

"She had the right to write this letter," Walesa told Wir-

tualna Polska news site.

"She should get glory, not insults for that," he said, adding that he has met Mosbacher in person and knows her to be Poland's friend.

Kopcinska's statement insisted that Poland wasn't curbing media freedom and that it also values freedom of speech. But government plans to change the media law have alarmed its critics and have recently drawn disapproving comments from Mosbacher.

Prosecutors are looking into undercover footage broadcast in January by TVN showing members of a Polish neo-Nazi group celebrating Adolf Hitler's birthday last year. Poland bans the propagation of Nazi ideology.

In 2016, TVN was bought for \$2 billion by the U.S. company Scripps Networks Interactive in the largest U.S. investment ever in Poland. Scripps has since been bought by Discovery, Inc., based in Silver Spring, Maryland. □

Nigeria tries to rally troops as extremists' toll revealed

By SAM OLUKOYA

Associated Press

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) —

Nigeria's military finally revealed a death toll of 39 from a new series of extremist attacks on soldiers, while President Muhammadu Buhari on Wednesday declared that Boko Haram and Islamic State-linked fighters should be wiped "from the surface of the earth."

Another 43 soldiers were wounded in five attacks between Nov. 2 and 18, the army announced after days of silence, blaming "large numbers of Boko Haram terrorists."

Shocked by the deaths, Buhari backed off past declarations that Boko Haram has been defeated and urged the military to "rise to the challenge." He addressed security leaders in the turbulent northeast as he faces growing criticism ahead of next year's election over the failure to end

what he called a "must-win war."

The Islamic State West Africa Province, the largest IS-linked extremist group in Africa and a recent Boko

killed two abducted health workers in recent months, is becoming more vicious.

Buhari, a former military dictator from the north, seeks re-election after mak-



In this Friday, May 29, 2015 file photo, Nigerian President elect, Muhammadu Buhari, arrives for his inauguration at the eagle square in Abuja, Nigeria.

Associated Press

Haram offshoot, claimed responsibility for the deadliest attack, a Nov. 18 assault on a military base in Metele. Concerns are growing that the group, which has

ing the defeat of the nearly decade-old Islamic insurgency a central goal of his presidency. He told the military chiefs that "I will do everything within my pow-

ers to continue empowering you" and vowed to improve soldiers' welfare, to applause.

But some angry soldiers later tried to disrupt Buhari's comments to troops, causing him to pause and look around after he urged them to "please maintain your loyalty to the country." Some soldiers weary of the dangerous counterterror operations have protested amid concerns that the global drop in oil prices has hurt funding for military efforts in Nigeria, one of Africa's top producers of crude.

Buhari's high-profile visit to Maiduguri city, the birthplace of Boko Haram, included a visit to troops wounded in the Metele attack.

The president also announced he was convening a meeting on Thursday in Chad of the heads of state of several nations in the vast Lake Chad region.

The meeting will review the security situation and "enhance the capacity" of the regional multinational force combating Boko Haram, his office said.

The military will put in place a "new proactive strategy" to counter the recent losses, the State House cited the army chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Tukur Buratai, as saying.

But the extremists appear to have adopted new strategies as well. Nigeria's army in its statement late Wednesday noted "daring moves by the terrorists" in the past few months, with increased use of drones against military positions and "infusion of foreign fighters in their ranks."

Boko Haram has killed or kidnapped thousands over the years, including the mass abduction of the Chibok schoolgirls, and forced scores of children into carrying out suicide bombings. □



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Families of Lebanon's war missing choose to forgive past

By SARAH EL DEEB
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Families of people who went missing during Lebanon's civil war called on the government Wednesday to expedite the formation of a commission to look into the fate of relatives and urged those who know what happened to come forward nearly three decades after the conflict ended.

The families say they are not seeking punishment but want to find out what happened to their loved ones, find closure and bury remains that can still be unearthed.

Parliament earlier this month passed a law calling for the commission and affirming the right of relatives to know for families of an estimated 17,000 people missing in the 1975-1990 war. The law was a mile-



A Lebanese woman holds a picture of her relative who went missing during the Lebanese 1975-90 civil war, during a press conference in front of the U.N. headquarters in Beirut, Lebanon, Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018.

Associated Press

stone -- an official recognition of the problem after years of campaigning by the families.

Some argued the law and the commission would ignite old hatreds and possibly revenge. But family members have sought to

encourage people with information to come forward, stressing that they have chosen to trade forgiveness for the right to know.

"This law didn't come to create new conflicts but to end old ones," said Wadad

Halwani, founder of the families of the missing committee whose husband was kidnapped in 1982.

"Our forgiveness is not personal. It is a humane message. We are trading accountability for the crimes of the past for a leap ... toward the future."

Halwani said the law aims to regulate the flow of information, guaranteeing "the right environment" for those who choose to come forward "so we can turn the page of the past together ... and close this file and end our sorrows."

The shadow of the civil war hovers over much of Lebanon's present and future, with no reconciliation and a sectarian-based political system that tries to preserve a negotiated balance between the sects that fought in the war.

The system often stalls

when politicians disagree, including when it failed to elect a president or a parliament for years. Currently, politicians are unable to form a new government six months after a new parliament was elected. The stalemate is likely to further delay the naming of the commission.

Lawmakers bickered over the law for years, right up until the last minute of voting on Nov. 12.

Some introduced a clause that called for punishing those responsible for kidnappings, apparently seeking to upend a consensus vote.

The families said they didn't seek the clause.

"Any threat of punishment now can complicate finding the truth," said Nizar Saghie, a rights lawyer from Legal Agenda who helped the families' campaign. □

UK court throws out extradition request for Turkish critic

By DANICA KIRKA
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — A British judge on Wednesday rejected the Turkish government's request to extradite a prominent critic of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, calling the case "politically motivated."

Judge John Zani refused to extradite Hamdi Akin Ipek, 54, a media tycoon whose newspapers and television stations were seized by the Turkish leadership after the attempted coup against

Erdogan in 2016. The case marked the first time an English court was asked to rule on the legality of a Turkish government crackdown on those linked to the exiled preacher Fethullah Gulen, who is accused of orchestrating the coup but has denied it. "I am satisfied that this is a politically motivated prosecution," Zani said during a hearing at Westminster Magistrates Court. Zani said returning Ipek to Turkey would risk violating the European Con-

vention of Human Rights, which states that no one should be subjected to torture or punishment that is "inhuman or degrading."

The Turkish government claims Ipek and his Koza Ipek group financed terrorism and produced propaganda. Justice Minister Abdulhamit Gul called the court's rejection of Ankara's extradition request "unacceptable." Gul said on Twitter that Turkey's extradition request was based on "international laws and



Akin Ipek speaks to media as he leaves Westminster Magistrates Court after his extradition hearing was dismissed in London, Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018.

Associated Press

conventions" but that the British court was influenced by politics. "Our expectation from Britain is to return fugitive terrorists ... as re-

quired by laws and conventions, and through this way, to show its friendship and alliance (with Turkey)," he wrote. □

UN chief: UN close to starting Yemen peace talks in Sweden

By **EDITH M. LEDERER**

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United Nations is close to creating conditions for the start of peace talks in Sweden between Yemen's warring parties December but there is no agreement yet, Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said Wednesday. The U.N. chief told reporters this is "a very crucial moment in relation to Yemen." U.N. envoy Martin Griffiths has been engaged in shuttle diplomacy, talking to Yemen's internationally recognized government backed by a Saudi-led coalition and Houthi Shiite rebels who control the capital Sanaa, Guterres said. The current diplomatic initiative is being driven by the increasing threat of famine in Yemen, but also by international outrage over the murder of U.S.-based Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi on Oct. 2 in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul which has put a spotlight on Saudi Arabia's role in the country's war. Griffiths announced on Nov. 16 that the warring parties had agreed to at-



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres is seen on a TV screen while delivering a speech during the United Nations Conference on Afghanistan at the UN Offices in Geneva, Switzerland, Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018.

Associated Press

tend talks. He initially tried to bring the government and Houthis together in early September, but the Houthis didn't show up in Geneva, saying they didn't have guarantees for their safe return. Guterres said Wednesday: "I believe there is a chance to be able to start effec-

tive negotiations in Sweden early in December, but we are not yet there." He said starting talks "would be an extremely important objective," and stressed, "If we are able to stop the Yemeni war, we will be stopping the most tragic humanitarian disaster we are facing in today's world."

The conflict in Yemen began with the 2014 takeover of the capital of Sanaa by the Iranian-backed Houthis, which toppled the government of Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi. The Saudi-led coalition has been fighting the Houthis since 2015. Saudi-led airstrikes have

hit schools, hospitals and wedding parties, and the Houthis have fired long-range missiles into Saudi Arabia and targeted vessels in the Red Sea.

Tens of thousands of people are believed to have been killed in the war and U.N. food agency chief David Beasley said last week that as many as 12 million of the 28 million Yemenis "are just one step away from famine."

Guterres is heading to the summit of the Group of 20 economic powers in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on Friday and Saturday and he told reporters he is ready to discuss peace talks to end the Yemen conflict with Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and any other Saudi officials attending the meeting.

Guterres has called for an independent and transparent investigation into Khashoggi's murder and when asked whether he would also raise that issue with the crown prince, he said: "I have never a problem in saying publicly and privately the same thing." □

Huge pro-government media conglomerate formed in Hungary

By **PABLO GORONDI**

Associated Press

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP)

— The owners of a vast majority of Hungary's pro-government media outlets said Wednesday they are donating their companies to a foundation, creating a huge right-wing media conglomerate.

The Central European Press and Media Foundation's assets will include cable news channels, internet news portals, tabloid and sports newspapers and all of Hungary's county newspapers, several radio stations and numerous magazines, among others. Among the brands to be under its control are Hir TV, Echo TV, Origo.hu, Nemzeti Sport, Bors, Magyar Idok and Figyelo. Most of the publications donated to the foundation were acquired or founded by allies of Prime Minister Viktor Orban in the past



In this Oct. 8, 2016 file picture a man shows the last printed edition of Nepszabadsag during a demonstration organized to express solidarity with Hungarian political daily Nepszabadsag in Budapest, Hungary.

Associated Press

few years. Some of them turned from relatively independent outlets into

unabashed supporters of the government, with copious state and government

advertising. Since Orban's return to power in 2010, international studies consider

media freedoms to have steadily declined in Hungary.

Agnes Urban, a media analyst at Budapest's Mertek Media Monitor, said that after the "unprecedented" move "it makes little sense to speak about freedom of the press in Hungary" because of the power the conglomerate will have.

"From now on, there will be total control over the right wing media close the government," Urban said. "These companies were competing with each other for state advertising ... but now the system will be much more centralized and it will be much cheaper to operate."

"The few remaining independent media companies will also find it much, much harder to operate, since they will be up against a single, huge competitor," Urban concluded. □

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Report faults safety failures, defects in Lion Air crash

By NINIEK KARMINI
DAVID KOENIG
Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)

— Pilots fought against an automated system that pitched a Boeing jetliner's nose down repeatedly because of a faulty sensor until they finally lost control and plunged into the Java Sea last month, Indonesian investigators said Wednesday.

At a news conference, safety officials said they were still struggling to understand why the plane crashed, killing all 189 people on board.

The National Transportation Safety Commission's Nurcahyo Utomo said investigators were trying to figure out from interviews with engineers why they certified that the Boeing 737 MAX 8 was airworthy and whether they had followed required maintenance procedures. Pilots of previous flights had reported problems with control systems on the brand-new jet.

The board issued a preliminary report that stopped short of declaring a probable cause of the crash — the investigation is continuing — but it provided new details about the pilots' struggle to fly the highly automated jet and Lion Air's inability to fix problems with sensors on the plane.

Sensors that measure speed were flushed and checked, and an electrical plug was cleaned before the fatal flight. Mechanics, however, did not check a sensor that measures whether the nose of the plane is pointing up or down.

That "angle of attack" sensor gave faulty readings



National Transportation Safety Committee investigator Nurcahyo Utomo holds a model of an airplane during a press conference on the committee's preliminary findings on their investigation on the crash of Lion Air flight 610, in Jakarta, Indonesia, Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018.

Associated Press

throughout the short flight, triggering a system that automatically pointed the plane's nose down more than two dozen times, with pilots responding by manually fighting to correct the pitch. Pilots even asked air traffic controllers to tell them how fast and high they were flying.

The malfunctions and warnings from the plane's control system appeared to overwhelm the pilots almost as soon as the jet became airborne, said another investigator, Ony Suryo Wibowo.

"The problem is if multiple malfunctions occur all at once, which one should be prioritized?" Wibowo said.

In a statement following release of the report, U.S.-based Boeing declared that the MAX, its newest

plane, is safe. The manufacturer played up the possibility of pilot error.

Boeing noted that the crew of the plane's previous flight one day earlier had responded correctly to the automatic nose-down pitch and flew the plane manually. They also ran safety checklists. The preliminary report does not say whether pilots on the deadly flight took those steps, Boeing pointed out. Boeing has said that the procedure to correct an automatic nose-down pitch is in the plane's operating manual and pilots should have known about it.

Searchers have not yet recovered the plane's cockpit voice recorder, which could tell investigators what the pilots were doing — or

failing to do — to regain control of the plane during the brief, erratic flight.

The report by Indonesia's safety commission repeated earlier recommendations made just after the disaster that pilots be better versed in emergency procedures and aware of past aircraft problems. They recommended that Lion Air, a fast-growing low-cost airline based in Jakarta, ensure that pilots follow proper procedures "to improve the safety culture."

Mary Schiavo, a former inspector general of the U.S. Department of Transportation, said the preliminary report offered a road map of final recommendations that are likely to emerge from the investigation.

"They will be looking for more precise reporting of

problems (by pilots), and certainly a better maintenance response," she said.

Peter Lemme, an expert in aviation and satellite communications and a former Boeing engineer who wrote an analysis of the data on his blog, compared the scene in the cockpit to "a deadly game of tag" in which the plane pointed down, the pilots countered by manually aiming the nose higher, only for the sequence to repeat about five seconds later.

That happened 26 times during the 11-minute flight, but pilots failed to recognize what was happening and follow the known procedure for countering incorrect activation of the automated safety system, Lemme told The Associated Press.

Lemme said he was troubled that there weren't easy checks to see if sensor information was correct, that the crew of the fatal flight apparently wasn't warned about the problems on previous flights and that the Lion Air jet wasn't fully repaired after those flights.

"Had they fixed the airplane, we would not have had the accident," he said. "Every accident is a combination of events, so there is disappointment all around here," he said.

The U.S. National Transportation Safety Board and Boeing experts are helping the Indonesian investigators.

Boeing has a great deal at stake in defending its plane.

More than 200 MAX jets have been delivered to airlines around the world. □

Venezuela's next generation of opposition plays a long game

By **SCOTT SMITH**

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Roberto Patino, a rising star in Venezuela's unravelling opposition movement, pushes through a crowd of children clutching spoons and waiting to eat.

The 30-year-old organizes a crew that hands out hundreds of meals each day in slums throughout the capital. It's the only solid nourishment of the day for many of the children in La Vega neighborhood of western Caracas. And while it doesn't come with a serving of explicit political indoctrination, there's no doubt it's a sharp rebuke to the government's narrative that it alone can feed the poor.

"We've found fertile ground in these slums," Patino said of the lunches financed by Venezuelan donors at home and abroad, "for the message of change and creating a new Venezuela." As President Nicolas Maduro cracks down on opponents amid an unprecedented economic crisis, desperation has driven some critics, especially those in exile, to openly support violent shortcuts to removing him from power. There was an apparent attempt on Maduro's life in August with explosives-laden drones and some critics have welcomed recent suggestions by the Trump administration favoring a military coup.

But many of the beleaguered opposition figures remaining in the country see their best hopes in capitalizing on widespread discontent with Maduro's rule playing out in rough neighborhoods long considered his strongholds. It's there where Patino, a former student leader, and other grassroots organizers in their 20s and 30s have been feeding children, encouraging women to become community activists and organizing protests to demand public services like reliable drinking water and electricity.

Twenty-eight-year-old

Marialbert Barrios, the National Assembly's youngest member, has been giving talks at

Things took a turn for the worse this year with the breakdown of negotiations between Maduro's

divide, exile is also driving internal frictions. Some leaders still in Venezuela like Capriles and former

attention to crumbling and abandoned government apartment buildings that house hundreds but have been condemned as unsafe.

Like Patino, he's focused on bread-and-butter issues rather than confrontations in the streets.

"The challenge for political leaders is to win back the right to listen to the country," Pizarro said. "This has been lost because we haven't been fighting for and talking about what the majority of people need."

The opposition's overall unpopularity and sharp internal divides indicate that government officials' crackdown has been successful.

"They're not successful at dealing with the economic crisis and hyper-inflation," said Michael Penfold, a Caracas-based fellow for the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington. "But they are quite good at playing the divisive game with the opposition."

Patino, meanwhile, said that he's deferred his political ambitions to focus on feeding 1,800 children five days a week in 21 slums of Caracas.

He believes it's his best chance at influencing his country by providing a vision of Venezuela's future different from the one featured in incessant government propaganda. He's also founded other projects, like one that collects data on murdered Caracas residents in an attempt to fill the void left by the government's refusal to publish crime statistics.

Patino comes from a wealthy family and says he could have made a career abroad, with several job offers upon completing his master's degree at Harvard University. But he says the struggle is at home in Venezuela, feeding children one meal at a time.

"I launched this initiative, first out of a sense of humanity, a sense of what is needed right now," Patino said. "But also out of the thought that this is what service should be about." □



In this Aug. 26, 2018 photo, Roberto Patino greets children at a children's center in the La Vega neighborhood of Caracas, Venezuela.

Associated Press

empowerment workshops urging women in a working-class section of Caracas to replace their passive complaints with action toward making their neighborhood better for everyone.

It's a long-term strategy in a country where citizens are increasingly giving up on democracy and when the opposition's old guard is increasingly discredited.

"It's time that this generation took a step forward against totalitarianism and took the reins in the fight," Manuela Bolivar, a 35-year-old opposition lawmaker, tweeted recently.

Years of strong-armed government tactics — and internal battles over egos and strategy — have left Venezuela's opposition divided and feckless.

Things looked up briefly when the opposition won control of congress in 2015. But it quickly found itself outmaneuvered when Maduro began to ignore its dictums and target its leaders for promoting street protests last year seeking his resignation that left more than 120 people dead.

government and the opposition aimed at laying the groundwork for fair elections. Maduro barred many top critics from the ballot in May presidential elections, leaving the opposition divided over whether to boycott the vote. Amid widespread allegations of vote rigging, Maduro easily won re-election despite polls showing overwhelming unpopularity.

The failures helped turn sentiment against the opposition's traditional leaders.

On social media, figures including former National Assembly President Julio Borges and former presidential candidate Henrique Capriles are routinely denounced — with little direct evidence — as sellouts who have cut secret deals to coexist with Maduro.

Other opposition figures have been jailed, banned from politics by government-controlled courts or exiled, like Borges and former Caracas Mayor Antonio Ledezma.

In addition to a generational

presidential candidate Henri Falcon have recently hinted they are open to a new attempt at dialogue, saying the tough talk from abroad will only lead to more bloodshed and consolidate Maduro's grip on power.

Allegations that several prominent opposition leaders, along with government officials, received payments from graft networks inside the state oil company or from a Brazilian construction giant also stained their credibility.

"Venezuela needs absolutely different leadership," said Luis Vicente Leon, head of the Caracas-based polling firm Datanalysis, citing polling that shows the opposition is just as unpopular as Maduro. "I'm not sure if that means young. It means fresh, which is different."

Among the young is Miguel Pizarro, a 30-year-old with shaggy black hair and heavily tattooed arms who was elected to the National Assembly at age 21.

He recently brought local TV cameras to the sprawling slum of Petare to call

LOCAL

Guyana and Aruba aviation authorities sign Memorandum of Understanding

By Denis Chabrol

GUYANA — Guyana and Aruba inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to pave the way for more carriers from that Dutch territory to fly to the lone former British colony on the north-east coast of South America.

Signing the agreement were the Director-General of the Guyana Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), Retired Lt.Col. Egbert Field and the Manager of the Strategic and Policy Unit of Aruba's Department of Civil Aviation, Anthony Kirchner.

Field explained that the MoU is a precursor to an Air Services Agreement that would first have to be approved by The Netherlands which is responsible for Aruba's foreign policy.

Speaking at the signing ceremony on the sidelines of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) meeting being held in Guyana, Kirchner hoped that the memorandum of understanding would facilitate more airlines flying directly from Aruba to Guyana.

"It was quite a work, a lot of pressure to fulfill all the gaps and to continue, especially for Aruba Airlines as a start. Hope we would get more airlines between Aruba and Guyana and the connectivity because we don't have a straight flight. We hope that we can arrange, with the help of Aruba Airlines, to get a straight flight not

through Cuba. We would like to keep Cuba but a straight flight is always what our passengers want. They want to go straight to their destination and this agreement will definitely be the start of further agreements in the future," said Kirchner whose department is part of Aruba's Ministry of Transport, Communication and the Primary Sector.

Field remarked that negotiations for the accord began several months ago when Aruba Airlines was given tentative permission by Guyana's Minister of Aviation, Annette Ferguson pending the completion of the memorandum. "Temporary approval was given to them to conduct their operation. We did not wait until his document was signed," he said.

The GCAA Director-General said Guyana is unwavering in its support for an open-skies policy through air services agreements "because these instruments are the elements and the basis on which airline could ride on". Chief Executive Officer of Roraima Airways, Captain Gerry Gouveia, whose company provides ground-handling services to Aruba Airlines, praised the GCAA for facilitating the MoU. "It was your diligence and eye for detail and getting this done and your guidance was invaluable," he said.

Aruba Airlines, he said, has committed to continue and increasing operations in Guyana. □



Director General of the Guyana Civil Aviation Authority, Retired Lt.Col. Egbert Field (left) and his counterpart from Aruba, Anthony Kirchner signing the memorandum of understanding on air services between Guyana and Aruba. Witnessing the signing are GCAA Chairman, Retired Col. Larry London (extreme left) and an Aruban official.

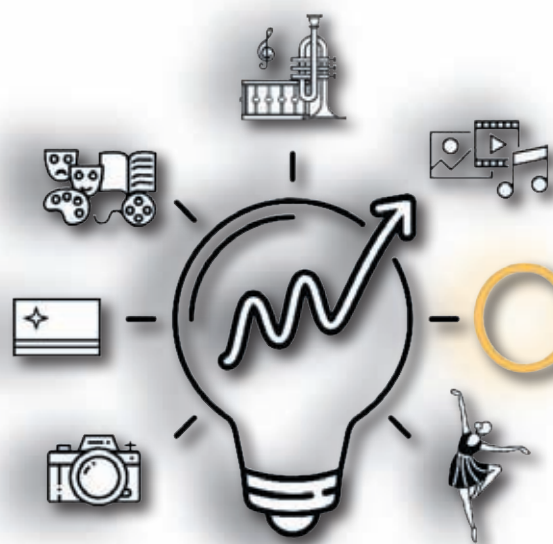
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Creative Islander

By Thaïs G. Franken

Creativity, the 21st century skill to have?

Maastricht – Alongside our introduction last time to the economic impact of the Cultural and Creative Industries (CCI), today we will explore the implication of the current time when it comes to employability with an eye towards the future. Last time, we discovered aspects of the Orange Economy and how this relates to possibly diversifying the Aruban economy. Next to this, we also looked at how the value chain for the CCI looks like and what contribution the Aruban community could have within these developments.

The focus on the economic impact is directly affected by the employment opportunities of a community. An outcome of primary importance may be the boost to the local economy generated by the cultural industries, reflected in such indicators as the value of regional output, employment, business investments, skills development in the workforce and growth in diverse sectors. According to World Economic Forum (WEF), creativity will be one of the top three skills to have for the 2020 job market. My question, maybe yours as well, are we prepared for this shift?

In the beginning of our journey together, we learned the extensiveness and the diversity of the CCI. So, this also creates job and career opportunities in numerous niche markets such as publishing, design, multimedia, telecommunication, entertainment, writing, arts, music industry, advisory and consulting, technology industry, cultural and creative entrepreneurship, management in cultural institutions and so much more. However, looking at other industries, creativity has become more popular compared to the previous decades. This raises questions if we are equipping the next generations to uphold these standards. Are we providing children with exposure and development opportunities to attain creative skills for their future careers?

An important point to make in this context, is that the CCI are both **skill intensive** which require specific skills and high-level qualifications of their workforce, and **labor intensive**, especially those with a high concentration of creative outputs. This often generates more job satisfaction than routine work that requires lower skills in a very mass production like environment. Many of the careers available within the CCI are highly skill driven. The outlook for developing a CCI should be to not only diversify the Aruban economy, but to provide jobs for our people. Jobs with high satisfaction rates and jobs that could offer growth opportunities.

Continued on Page 15



Top 10 skills

in 2020

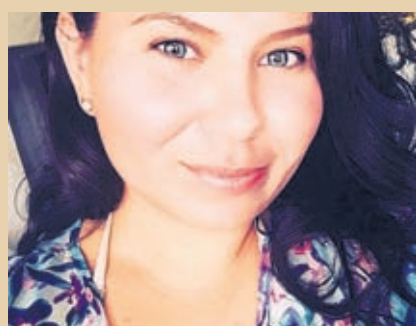
1. Complex Problem Solving
2. Critical Thinking
3. Creativity
4. People Management
5. Coordinating with Others
6. Emotional Intelligence
7. Judgment and Decision Making
8. Service Orientation
9. Negotiation
10. Cognitive Flexibility

in 2015

1. Complex Problem Solving
2. Coordinating with Others
3. People Management
4. Critical Thinking
5. Negotiation
6. Quality Control
7. Service Orientation
8. Judgment and Decision Making
9. Active Listening
10. Creativity



Source: Future of Jobs Report, World Economic Forum



Meet Our Columnist

ORANJESTAD — Thaïs G. Franken is a Master Student at the University of Maastricht in The Netherlands and Graduate School of Governance | UNI-MERIT. Aruba Today met this remarkable young lady during an interview for our newspaper. Her ambitions, her drive, her passion and her happy forthcoming made a big impression and out of this came the mutual desire to work together. Aruba Today is more than happy to announce Thaïs as our columnist. Her column Creative Islander will appear every two weeks on Thursday in Aruba Today. Welcome to the club Thaïs.



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Creativity, the 21st century skill to have?

Continued from Page 14

Many students go abroad after their high school education to pursue knowledge and a degree to one day make their own contribution. Developing a CCI would offer a platform for other types of competencies and skills to shine. The technological and design industries have been becoming iconic pillars in many industries and economies around the world, and Aruba should not discard that. We want our students to come back, but they need adequate jobs for that to happen. We need to match their skillset within the Aruban labor market.

Besides the fact that the CCI could provide more skillful jobs, an important aspect to this is the realization that the age we are living in is a very progressive and technological one. We are living in the social media age, an age where everything is becoming less personal and more automated. Each decade, more and more jobs are being replaced by robots and more technological advanced mechanisms. However, this is where creativity raises the bar. According to Anne Powers of Forbes, "Ultimately a computer lacks imagination or creativity to dream up a vision for the future. It lacks the emotional competent that a human being has. Thus, creativity will be the skill of the future" (2018).

At this point it is almost impossible to deny the technological changes that are occurring daily.

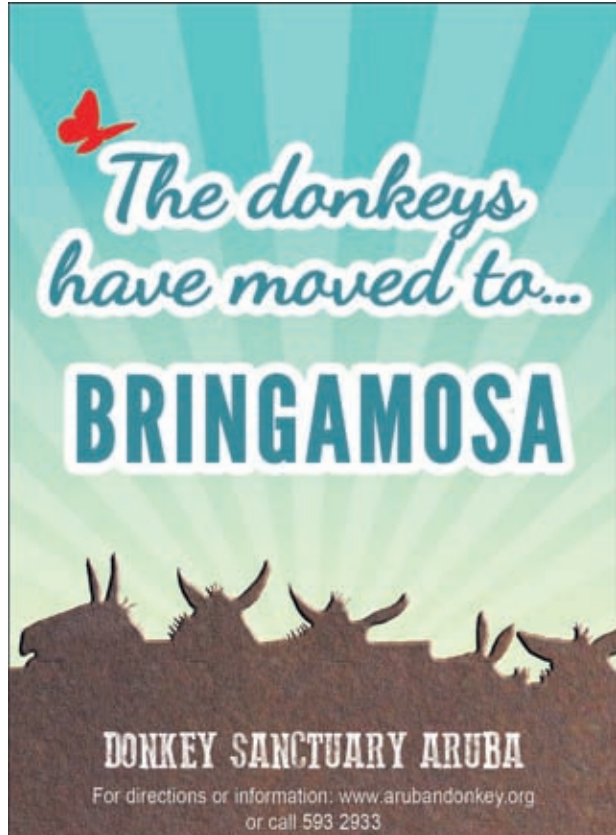
Children are now more than ever exposed technology, so the need for creative development should be there to balance out the changes. Change is not bad! Technology is not the enemy! But creativity is power, gives opportunities, is necessary and is needed. Anne Powers ends and states that "the key to staying ahead and participating in the creation of the future is our own creativity. We must embrace and develop our creativity, and then use technology creatively solve problems of the world" (2018). Aruba, as creative as we are as a people, we should take one for the team. Take one for the future generation before we are too late.

I end today's column with some thoughts, let's sit and think about these questions for a while:

- How many students are studying abroad?
- What are they studying? Is it possible for them to return to Aruba?
- Are our children exposed to creative skill development on an early age?
- Does our community value creativity?
- Is the Aruban Market ready for the 2020 skill shift?

Aruba is an island of potential, an island of resilience. Aruba and its people wants to see growth and economic stability. With a CCI Aruba could not only create more income, but it can make an impact on an individual level, a

personal level. Implementing a CCI is not only the government's job, it also requires the community's awareness and involvement. In the end, we want positive sustainable development for our island. Now, we know we should include creativity to our bag of tricks! □



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Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort Celebrate Employment Anniversary's *Associates celebrate five years working on the Bucuti & Tara Team*

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Bucuti's Five Year Anniversary Celebrations in November:

- Arlyne Thode – Concierge, Bucuti & Tara Front Office
- Jessica Gomez – Bartender, The Sand Bar
- Oriana Dubero – Waitress, Elements Resaturant

Shown with Owner Ewald Biemans; Resort Manager Rik van der Berg and Training & Development Manager Monique Zaandam

About Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort

Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort has recently become the first fully Carbon Neutral resort in the Caribbean. Named the No. 1 Hotel for Romance in the Caribbean for 2018, and No. 1 Hotel in the Caribbean for two years in a row by guest-driven TripAdvisor, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort is Aruba's

premier adults-only boutique resort. Led by celebrated hotelier and environmentalist, Ewald Biemans, named by Caribbean Journal as the 2017 Caribbean Hotelier of the Year, the resort is nestled on the powdery white sands of Eagle Beach, home to protected sea turtles and named one of the "Dream Beaches of the World." Bucuti offers 104 well-appointed guestrooms, suites and penthouses; sunbeds and shade for every guest; fresh water infinity pool; spa; WiFi; and complimentary iPad with Skype for use during stay. Award-winning healthy dining is enjoyed at oceanfront Elements, Tara Lounge and private beach dining. Reserved exclusively for guests and their friends, the open-air SandBar on the beach offers top-shelf cocktails and live music daily.

The resort is TAG Approved® as a LGBTQ-friendly hotel. Bucuti, a worldwide sustainable tourism leader, holds eco-certifications of LEED Silver, Green Globe Platinum, ISO 14001 and Travelife Gold and was named the World's Most Sustainable Hotel/Resort in 2016 by Green Globe. □



Bartenders Nathan Schwengle and Glenn Kemp win 4th annual Bartenders' Brawl



ORANJESTAD - The fourth annual Bartenders' Brawl was held on the Festival Plaza in downtown Oranjestad, this past Saturday. The elegant event showcased a record of nine of Aruba's top bartenders impressing event-goers with their original craft cocktail creations. Aruba's local spirit distributors were the essential collaborators to make this event happen—supplying all the liquor and necessary ingredients to produce these exciting libations for attendees of the event to enjoy. Renaissance's culinary team fueled the guests with savory bites like juicy beef sliders, mini chicken skewers, Spanish tapas, and queso for dessert, while local deejay extraordinaire, DeeJay Jason, provided an upbeat, lively backdrop to the festivities.

This year, in addition to the People's Choice Award, a panel of judges selected the Judges' Choice. The five judges, three of them in the bar business, Ken Mata, Danny v/d Linden and Danvid Webb, event planner Maria Silva, and senior graphic designer Kyrenia Jonkhout, came to a unanimous decision on their favorites.

Receiving the most votes from guests

at the event and earning the People's Choice Award was "Cunucu Sublime," with Grey Goose Vodka presented by Tropical Bottling, created by Glenn Kemp, a bartender for Blue Bar, Renaissance Marina Tower. The Judges' Choice went to the "Batch 27," from bartender Nathan Schwengle, of the Apotheek Bar & Lounge, representing the Aruba Trading Company. The judges also lauded, second place winner Antonio Altomonte, representing Pepia Est NV, a bartender at the Lobby Bar & Restaurant, for his Kentucky Passion.

Although there were ultimately just two winners, everyone in the crowd seemed to have their favorites. The team at Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino and Island Temptations/wheninaruba were proud to provide a venue for Aruba's talented bartenders to showcase their creativeness and further elevate the island's growing craft cocktail scene. Cheers to all the bartenders and distributors that helped make this a dynamic evening! Miss Aruba Anouk Eman and Food & Beverage Director Diego Lemasson, helped with the trophy presentation, both #1 place winners also received a weekend stay at the Renaissance Aruba Resort. □

SPORTS



Pittsburgh Penguins' Brian Dumoulin (8), Zach Aston-Reese (46) and Phil Kessel (81) celebrate after Aston-Reese scored against Winnipeg Jets goaltender Connor Hellebuyck (37) during the third period of an NHL hockey game, Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018, in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Associated Press

Aston-Reese breaks tie in 3rd as Penguins down Jets 4-3

Associated Press

WINNIPEG, Manitoba (AP)

— It took offense from players up and down the lineup to push the Pittsburgh Penguins past Winnipeg.

Zach Aston-Reese scored the tiebreaking goal with 5:12 remaining off a perfect pass from Phil Kessel, and the Penguins rallied past the Jets 4-3 on Tuesday night.

Derek Grant pulled the Penguins even 5:08 into the third period. Sidney Crosby and Riley Sheahan also scored for Pittsburgh (10-8-5).

It was the first goal of the season for Grant, and the second for both Sheahan and Aston-Reese.

"It's huge when you get contributions like that from throughout your lineup, especially in the bottom six," Penguins coach Mike Sullivan said. "I just think that makes us that much more difficult to play against and on a night like tonight, it's the difference in the hockey game."

Crosby also gave the third and fourth lines a lot of credit for their performance.

"Yeah, they're doing a lot of good things and a lot of those guys are a big part

of killing penalties and getting big kills for us, so to see them chip in offensively is great," he said. "They deserve it with how hard they work."

Mark Scheifele scored twice for the Jets (13-8-2), and Brandon Tanev had their other goal.

"We've just got to play the way we know how to," Scheifele said. "We get away from it, we start doing things that aren't part of our strategy. We turn pucks over, we don't get pucks deep."

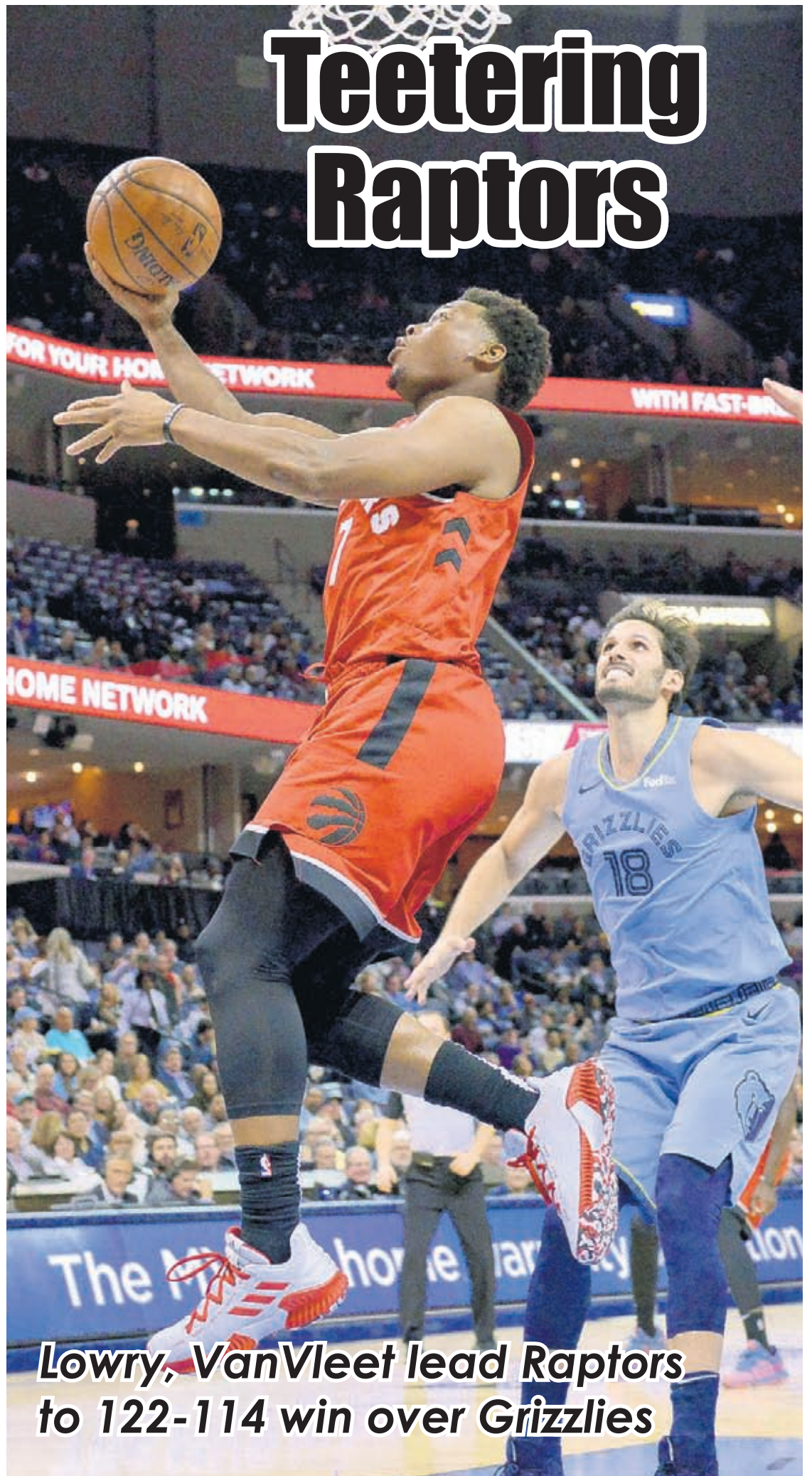
We've just got to simplify in those areas. We're a simple team. We get it deep, we work teams in the offensive zone and make them go an extra 30-50 feet every time."

Head coach Paul Maurice agreed that his Jets lost their way in the final period.

"We gave up five shots in the third," he said. "It wasn't a tilt to the ice by any means. I think we're going to like our chances better than theirs in the third."

Gave up a tough one, got a bad break on one and it's in the back of the net. That's it. It's a tight game."

Continued on Page 19



Lowry, VanVleet lead Raptors to 122-114 win over Grizzlies

Toronto Raptors guard Kyle Lowry (7) shoots against Memphis Grizzlies forward Omri Casspi (18) and center Marc Gasol in the first half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018, in Memphis, Tenn.

Associated Press
Page 18

Toronto Raptors vs. Memphis Grizzlies

By **CLAY BAILEY**
Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The Toronto Raptors were teetering on the edge of their winning streak ending, facing a 17-point, second-half deficit.

A 3-point shooting show erased any worries.

The Raptors converted 10 of 17 shots from outside the arc in the second half, including 7 of 12 in the fourth to pull away from the Memphis Grizzlies for a 122-114 victory on Tuesday night.

"We had a real gut check at halftime there," Raptors coach Nick Nurse said after Toronto trailed 71-59 at the break. "We weren't really doing the things that we wanted to do, and then we came out and played a lot better in the second half."

Kyle Lowry had 24 points and six assists, and Fred VanVleet added 18 points to lead the Raptors. VanVleet made all six shots on the night, including three from outside the arc in the fourth.

"We know I haven't been shooting the ball well," VanVleet said. "That's no secret. So, to get back on track a little bit is always fun."

Kawhi Leonard finished with 17 points and 10 rebounds, and Serge Ibaka scored



Memphis Grizzlies guard Mike Conley (11) drives against Toronto Raptors guard Fred VanVleet (23) in the second half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018, in Memphis, Tenn.

Associated Press

16 points as the Raptors won their sixth straight and maintained the best record in the NBA (18-4).

The loss marked the second time in two games that Memphis lost a double-digit lead early in the third by allowing its opponents to dominate after halftime. The Grizzlies squandered a 13-point lead in their loss to the New York Knicks on Sunday.

"They put a ton of pressure on you. Their style won the fight," Memphis coach J.B. Bickerstaff said of the Raptors, later adding: "I think we got rushed to be honest with you. They turned up their defensive pressure and we got sped up. Again, we play a certain style, and we weren't comfortable with some of the shots because they were rushed."

Marc Gasol led Memphis with 27 points, making 10 of his 14 shots. Mike Conley added 20 points and six assists.

The barrage of 3-pointers from Toronto in the middle stages of the fourth keyed a 17-2 burst. The Raptors would never trail again.

The Raptors steadily cut into the deficit in the second half before the 3-point shooting display. Three

straight 3-pointers from OG Anunoby, Delon Wright and VanVleet, pulled the Raptors even at 105-all near the midway point of the fourth.

"I felt like we didn't play defense at all," Grizzlies guard Shelvin Mack said. "Even in the first half, giving up 59 points in a half is unlike us. Scoring 71 points, you get kind of disguised about how bad we were defensively."

TIP-INS

Raptors: Jonas Valanciunas came off the bench for the seventh time this season. ... Memphis led 32-31 after the first quarter, breaking a string of five straight games where Toronto led after the first. ... Both Ibaka and coach Nick Nurse drew technical fouls in the last two minutes of the second quarter. ... Toronto has won four straight and six of seven in the series.

Grizzlies: Jaren Jackson Jr. became the fourth player in NBA history with at least 250 points, 20 steals, and 40 blocks in first 20 career games. The other three were David Robinson, Bill Walton and Patrick Ewing. ... Lost consecutive home games for the first time this season. ... Lost their third straight, the longest skid of the season. □

Drug testers say they're quietly reforming Russia

By **JAMES ELLINGWORTH**
AP Sports Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — In Russia's long-running feud with global anti-doping bosses, its own drug testers are caught in the crossfire. When the Russian anti-doping agency, known as RUSADA, was reinstated by the World Anti-Doping Agency in September, it caused an outcry from international campaigners who saw the move as forgiveness for Russia, whose political leaders have not directly admitted that widespread doping in the country was state-sponsored.

RUSADA, however, says it's quietly transforming

Russian sport with a targeted testing program focused on the likeliest dopers and an investigations unit boasting Interpol expertise. WADA has few if any criticisms of RUSADA's work since the suspension was lifted but it risks being suspended again if Russian authorities don't provide lab data which could shed light on past offenses and cover-ups that WADA believes were directed by government officials. RUSADA's director-general Yuri Ganus has urged Russian authorities to cooperate. "We shouldn't be frightened about what we find," Ganus told The Associated Press on Wednesday



In this Feb. 18, 2014, file photo, a Russian skating fan holds the country's national flag over the Olympic rings before the start of the men's 10,000-meter speedskating race at Adler Arena Skating Center during the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia.

Associated Press

day as WADA and Russian authorities tried to thrash out a deal.

"The most important thing is how we react to it, and we need to react with the

highest level of principle and consistency. It's not about proving to someone, but about showing our society and athletes, especially those just starting out, that doping is not acceptable."

Ganus has a picture on his office wall of an icebreaker ship. He says it represents RUSADA, cutting through a system where doping was tolerated. The old RUSADA, until it was suspended in 2015, was often seen as being part of such a system and WADA investigations alleged its staff played a role in doping cover-ups. Almost all of the staff from those days are gone. □

Penguins vs. Jets

Continued from Page 17

Tanev got Winnipeg started at 7:01 of the first period with his fourth goal this season on a short-handed breakaway against Casey DeSmith, who made 24 saves.

Crosby tied it at 18:13 with a slick backhand in close that fooled goalie Connor Hellebuyck. It was Crosby's 10th of the season.

Scheifele put the Jets back in front 39 seconds into the second on a feed from captain Blake Wheeler. But that only lasted until Sheahan got credit for poking a loose puck over the line after Hellebuyck failed to corral it at 4:40.

Wheeler also set up Scheifele's second goal of the night and 13th this season, which rocketed past DeSmith before he had much time to react at 16:00.

Grant tied it once more for the Penguins when he beat Hellebuyck between

his legs. Kessel then set up Aston-Reese for his second of the season with a nice feed to the front of the net. "We were up for this one," Grant said. "We didn't give up in here. We stuck to the game plan and tried to play the right way the whole game. We got some big saves from Casey ... some big blocks from guys and we really wanted this one."

NOTES: DeSmith has been thrust into the starter's job for the Penguins with Stanley Cup-winning goaltender Matt Murray sidelined by a lower-body injury after time off due to a concussion earlier this season. ... Hellebuyck finished with 26 saves. ... Crosby is closing in on Mario Lemieux's franchise record of 915 games. He has to play 33 more games to pass the Hall of Famer. "With some of the injuries I've had, you appreciate it more and more," Crosby said. "Play-



Caption= Pittsburgh Penguins' Sidney Crosby (87) scores on Winnipeg Jets' goaltender Connor Hellebuyck (37) during the first period of an NHL hockey game, Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018, in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Associated Press

ers always say as they get older they appreciate it more and more because you only have a window to

play, it's only a small window. He did so much for the team and the city, just being able to play at this age,

I still have that competitive in me and I don't feel any older. It's good to be in that company, I guess." □

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Portland, Sporting Kansas City to meet for spot in MLS Cup

By **DAVE SKRETTA**

AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP) —

Sporting Kansas City and the Portland Timbers spent 90-plus minutes last Sunday in an exhausting, mentally taxing showdown that ultimately ended in a scoreless draw.

Sporting KC captain Matt Besler expects a similar style of game Thursday night.

Two of the most successful and passionately supported teams in Major League Soccer will meet in Kansas City for the second leg of their home-and-home, aggregate-goal playoff.

One will leave as Western Conference champion and head to MLS Cup while the other will be done for the season.

"That first game was physical," Besler said. "We expected that just because it's the playoffs and both teams want to start that way, and us being away from home, we wanted to make sure we matched their intensity to start the game."

"I expected the game to settle down at some point," he continued, "but it never did. The first 15 minutes, 20 minutes of any playoff game is going to be intense."

It's going to be back and forth, there are going to be fouls, but I expected somebody to have some possession. Nobody really enjoyed the ball. It was back and forth. It was frantic. It



Portland Timbers' Dairon Asprilla (27) tries to cross the ball into the box as Sporting Kansas City's Seth Sinovic defends during the first leg in the MLS soccer Western Conference final, Sunday, Nov. 25, 2018, in Portland, Ore.

was up and down for 90 minutes."

It left both teams in a precarious position in the return leg.

The tiebreaker in MLS playoff games is away goals, and Sporting KC was unable to find the net in Portland despite a few good chances in the second half. Johnny Russell had the best of them when he sent a shot over the crossbar, and Daniel Salloi had a good attempt in stoppage time knocked away.

That means Sporting KC needs to either win the game outright Thursday or forge another scoreless

draw, at which point penalty kicks would be used to determine who advances.

If the Timbers win or manage a draw with any number of goals, they would head to MLS Cup.

"We've played half the series now and both teams know the situation we're in," Besler said.

"We know the away goals. We know we're tied. If we win, we advance. We know all these different things, the different factors. I think both teams know what they need to get out of the game."

Everyone on both sides expects a tense affair.

Whoever gets the first goal will dictate the rest of the match.

"We have to go there and try to get a win," Timbers coach Giovanni Savarese said.

"We have to go there with the mentality that it's one game, like it is in the regular season, and we have to go there and try to get a win. Prepare the plan, prepare the players to make sure that we get there, recover a few of the guys that were not available (Sunday) and then make sure we go there to win."

Sporting KC, which hasn't played for an MLS Cup

Associated Press

since winning the 2013 title, should be confident in playing at Children's Mercy Park, where they were 10-2-5 during the regular season. They are also an absurd 15-2-4 at home during the MLS playoffs.

Peter Vermes' club also should be confident in that they've shut out the Timbers three times this season, meaning it may take just one goal on what could be a sloppy field to win the game.

"Every team in the world would say playing at home is better than playing away in any sport," said the Sporting KC manager, who had to relocate practice this week indoors after a blizzard swept through the region on Sunday. Several inches of snow covered the field but it should melt by Thursday night.

"It's not easy to win away from home," Vermes said. "I also think our players when they're at home play with a different type of intensity, confidence, and I think that has a lot to do with our fans."

Much like Portland, the stands are always packed when Sporting KC plays. That should also contribute to an intense, lively atmosphere for the second leg of the Western Conference finals.

Sporting KC handled it well enough in Portland and now it's up to the Timbers to handle the road crowd in Kansas City. □

Chelsea coach to persist with Kante in unfamiliar role



Chelsea manager Maurizio Sarri speaks during a press conference at Cobham Training Centre, Stoke D'Abernon, Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018.

Associated Press

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Chelsea coach Maurizio Sarri will persist with playing N'Golo Kante in an unfamiliar advanced position in midfield despite acknowledging the France international has yet to settle in his new role. Kante, widely considered the world's best holding midfielder, has a slightly more attacking role in Chelsea's team this season as Sarri looks to accommodate a more creative deep-lying playmaker in new signing Jorginho.

That appears to be limiting the effectiveness of Kante, while rival teams are beginning to target and stifle Jorginho because he is so influential to Chelsea's style of play. That was particularly evident on Saturday when Tottenham overwhelmed Chelsea in a 3-1 win in the Premier League. Sarri was critical of Kante's display against Tottenham, saying he "lost his position" and "wanted to solve the match ... but in the wrong way." He has no intention, however, of changing

Chelsea's midfield set-up to better suit the 27-year-old Kante, who signed a new five-year deal last week. "I want to play as a center midfielder a very technical player," Sarri said Wednesday. "For me, the center midfielder is Jorginho or (Cesc) Fabregas. I don't want Kante in this position." Sarri previously has encouraged Kante to go forward in matches. "Maybe it's only a question of time," Sarri added about Kante adapting to his new position. □



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A year later, no surprises on what to expect from Tiger

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP) —

Justin Thomas is paired with Tiger Woods in the Hero World Challenge for the second straight year, and just like last time, he has an idea what to expect from him. By now, so does everyone else.

Woods was a mystery a year ago. He was No. 1,199 in the world ranking when he returned from a fourth back surgery, having competed in only one PGA Tour event since August 2015. Thomas had played golf with him at home in Florida and thought he looked great, a tough sell to those who hadn't seen Woods.

"The consistency wasn't there," Thomas said Wednesday after his pro-am round at Albany Golf Club. "But the great shots — the ones that made you stop and think a second — were. The more we played, the more we saw it. I wasn't going to say anything because you don't know what's going to happen and how he's going to feel. But I thought if he stays healthy, I think he's going to win this year."

There are no surprises this year. Woods now is No. 13



In this photo of September 23, 2018, Tiger Woods celebrates after digging into the 18th hole to win the Tour Championship in Atlanta.

in the world as he hosts this holiday tournament for the 20th time. It's his first 72-hole tournament since he ended his remarkable comeback by winning the Tour Championship in late September for his 80th career PGA Tour victory.

He twice contended at majors, taking a brief lead Sunday in the British Open and challenging Brooks Koepka to the end at the PGA Championship.

"Just being able to win a

golf tournament again, considering where I was at this point last year and (before) that point, I think what I've accomplished this year has been pretty special," Woods said.

It's another strong field at Albany with six of the top 10 in the world among the 18 players. Missing is Koepka, the U.S. Open and PGA champion who returned to No. 1 in the world this week, along with Jordan Spieth, who got married over the

weekend in Texas.

Francesco Molinari, the British Open champion and Ryder Cup star, also chose to take this year off, leaving Masters champion Patrick Reed as the only major champion in the field.

The unofficial event offers world ranking points, which matters most to Justin Rose because he has a chance to return to No. 1 in his seesaw battle with Koepka. The winner gets \$1 million — everyone in the field earned

at least \$2.6 million on the PGA Tour this season.

For Woods, it's a chance to build on momentum going into 2019.

"A guy like Tiger, just give him a speck of confidence or a speck of just feeling good, anything can happen," said Keegan Bradley, a late entry at the Bahamas when Tommy Fleetwood withdrew. "You can see that with Tiger, where he's just such a good player. He's going to get some momentum and he'll do great."

Henrik Stenson was among those who hadn't seen Woods in nearly a year when he arrived at the World Challenge last year. They were paired in the second round, and Woods was hitting his drives alongside and often past the Swede.

"I thought he was having a lot of speed when I saw him coming back here a year ago," Stenson said. "I thought he was going after the ball very strongly and he hit it a long, long way. I didn't really imagine him being able to go flat out like I thought he was at that point. He was obviously ready to play and ready to go after it at full speed." □

Loyola presents Final Four ring to Sister Jean

Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Sister Jean Dolores Schmidt now has a little bling to go along with the international attention she gained as the near-centenarian team chaplain during Loyola-Chicago's run to the NCAA Final Four.

Loyola great Jerry Hark-

ness, who was a member of its 1963 championship team, helped present a Final Four ring Tuesday night to Schmidt before the Rambler's rematch of their NCAA Tournament game against Nevada.

Schmidt, who turned 99 in August, sat in a wheelchair courtside for the presenta-

tion. She joked afterward that she felt as if the ring added five pounds to her weight.

The Catholic nun became a celebrity last March for her fandom and for praying before each game for her Ramblers — and for their opponents. □



Loyola University of Chicago's Sister Jean shows off the NCAA Final Four ring she received before an NCAA college basketball game between Loyola of Chicago and Nevada in Chicago, Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018.

Associated Press

All-female ski team provides another route for racers

By **PAT GRAHAM**
AP Sports Writer

Foreste Peterson confronted a cold reality after four years on the U.S. ski team development squad and four more competing at Dartmouth College : Her racing days were about to end.

Not ready to retire, there were not many other avenues, either. Time to put those environmental and geography studies to use , Peterson reckoned.

Out of the blue, Peterson received an offer almost too good to be true: Funds for housing, travel and coaching to keep her on the slopes.

The 25-year-old Peterson is a member of Team X , a newly formed all-female development ski team out of Park City, Utah, that's trying to become an alternate way to prepare the next generation.

It also keeps an eye out for the occasional late bloomer — like Peterson.

"I knew I had a lot more in the tank and I was hungry for more," Peterson said. "This gives me that chance."

So far, the squad is comprised of four racers from all over the globe, two coaches and two ski servicemen. Backed by private capital and led by coach Jim Tschabrun , the racers are being prepared to compete on the NorAm and Europa Cup levels, along with



In this March 27, 2017, file photo, Foreste Peterson carves a turn on her first run at the women's giant slalom ski race at the U.S. Alpine Ski Championships at Sugarloaf Mountain Resort in Carrabassett Valley, Maine.

possibly even at World Cup races. Last weekend, Peterson earned a spot through the U.S. team to compete in the giant slalom at Killington, Vermont. She nearly earned a second run, too. No pressure, though. This isn't a results-based team. It's not win-at-all-costs. Instead, they're focused more on the process of development.

When Tschabrun was assembling the team of Peterson, 18-year-old Madi Hoffman (Australia), 19-year-old Katie Fleckenstein (Canada) and 23-year-old Benedicte Lyche (Norway, Montana State), he asked them one simple question:

What are your ambitions? "I wanted their dream goals if they could lose all constraints," Tschabrun explained. "If they say they want to be an NCAA All-American or be on the World Cup or if they have an Olympic goal, it gives us a better road map."

About the name: After bantering around numerous ideas, they settled on Team X — to represent the extra X chromosome in females.

There aren't many teams like this around the world — for women, anyway. There are men's versions that feature racers still going into their late 20s.

"Men are given this message that they aren't done when they're older. At 23 or 24, there are still opportunities," Tschabrun said. "On the women's side, because they physically and emotionally mature quicker, there's this unfair tendency to close the door a few years earlier. There are a lot of women who continue to improve with age and as they gain experience and knowledge. But there haven't been a lot of opportunities for women out of college."

Take Peterson for example: She left the U.S. developmental squad to attend Dartmouth, where she

turned in a successful career.

Late in her final season, and thinking that just might be it, Tschabrun called her Dartmouth coach and arranged a meeting. He gave her the run-down of the program they were launching and how they could help her make ends meet while she still competed.

She was in. Peterson could've tried to compete as an independent, but a season of ski racing can cost in the neighborhood \$50,000.

"I wasn't going to pursue my goals for financial reasons, because I can't keep asking my parents to pay for me to chase my goals," Peterson said. "This opportunity? It's insane."

Their spots at races are really at the discretion of the national teams. Peterson competed in Killington last weekend after winning a time trial and receiving a position from the U.S. coaches. Essentially, that's how it works for NorAms and Europa Cup races, too.

"If an event doesn't fill, they leave it up to the event organizers who they want to choose. There's room for people like us on the scene," Tschabrun said. "We're not trying to be the flashiest team out there, or have the most Instagram followers. □"

Associated Press

Granderson voted Man of the Year for 3rd time by players



In this July 22 2018, file photo, Toronto Blue Jays right fielder Curtis Granderson a foul ball during the fourth inning against the Baltimore Orioles in a baseball game in Toronto.

Associated Press

Associated Press
IRVING, Texas (AP) — Free agent outfielder Curtis Granderson became the first three-time winner of the Marvin Miller Man of the Year, part of the players' association's Players Choice Awards.

The 37-year-old Granderson, the winner in 2009 and 2016, split last season between Toronto and Milwaukee. He was followed in the voting by Arizona first baseman Paul Goldschmidt and Los Angeles Angels outfielder Mike Trout. The award is given annually to a player for on-field perfor-

mance and contributions to the community that inspire others.

Boston designated hitter J.D. Martinez was voted Player of the Year, Red Sox outfielder Mookie Betts was selected the AL's Outstanding Player and Milwaukee's Christian Yelich was chosen the NL's Outstanding Player.

Tampa Bay lefty Blake Snell was the AL's Outstanding Pitcher and New York Mets ace Jacob deGrom the NL's Outstanding Pitcher. New York Yankees third baseman Miguel Andujar and Atlanta outfielder

Ronald Acuna Jr. were the Outstanding Rookies. Free agent outfielder Cameron Maybin and Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder Matt Kemp were the Comeback Players of the Year. Maybin was with Miami and Seattle this year. □



Wilder and Fury step up in heavyweight title fight

By **TIM DAHLBERG**
AP Sports Columnist

Just how well Deontay Wilder's heavyweight title defense Saturday night against Tyson Fury in Los Angeles will do at the box office is a question mark. For all the power in his right hand, Wilder is still trying to build his brand and Fury is largely an enigma in the U.S.

What it means for boxing's most prestigious division, though, is easy to quantify. The winner gets a glittering championship belt, of course, that signifies he is the baddest man on the planet — at least in the parts of the planet that currently recognize Wilder as the reigning heavyweight champion. And that's still a big deal because even though the heavyweight division hasn't been good in recent times, it's brimming with talent right now. But the real prize will likely come sometime next year, assuming common sense prevails as it often doesn't in boxing. That means a fight matching the Wilder-Fury winner with Anthony Joshua, the British puncher who currently holds the other parts of the title, in a pay-per-view fight that would do massive numbers. The best fighting the best, like the heavyweights of another era used to do all the time. And no better way to start it off then with an intriguing showdown at Staples Center between two undefeated fighters



In this Oct. 2, 2018 file photo Tyson Fury, left, and Deontay Wilder face off during a news conference in New York ahead of their heavyweight world championship boxing match in Los Angeles on Dec. 1.

Associated Press

who both have their eye on a bigger prize.

"The most important thing is that we all fight each other and give the boxing fans of our era something to talk about," Fury said. "It would be a crying shame to not fight each other and all get in the mix. Who's the best, we'll all find out when we all fight each other."

Wilder will be defending the WBC version of the title he holds against Fury in a fight no one was really talking about until it was made. That includes Wilder, who has campaigned hard for a unification fight with Joshua, even offering him

a \$50 million purse at one point to try to get it done.

But Joshua has his own timetable, and with the fan base of an entire country behind him in England, he has the luxury of picking and choosing just who he fights and when.

So, when he ignored Wilder, the American went looking elsewhere — and found a willing dance partner in Fury, who stakes a claim of his own to the heavyweight title after beating Wladimir Klitschko in 2015.

"I feel whoever wins this can call themselves the best heavyweight champion in the world," Wilder said.

"Let's face it, we don't have to keep going over this over and over again about Anthony Joshua. They had their opportunity, they had their chance."

Indeed, there should be no reason to talk much about Joshua this week. Wilder and Fury deserve to be center stage, if for nothing else than because both are willing to fight each other. There's also a lot to like about the fight itself, even if most boxing fans decide to save their money for the holidays rather than lay out \$74.95 for the pay-per-view.

Wilder is a legitimate heavy-

weight champion, a 6-foot-7 former Olympic medalist who hasn't lost in 40 fights and possesses freaky power in his right hand. He won't win any points for a boxing style that can be charitably described as awkward, but he has knocked out all but one of his opponents — including Luis Ortiz, the powerful former Cuban he flattened his last time out in March.

Fury, meanwhile, is even bigger at 6-foot-9, boxes like a middleweight, and has won all 27 of his fights. But he stepped away from the ring after beating Klitschko for the title and ballooned to nearly 400 pounds while binging on beer and cocaine. He said he was in a deep depression that has now lifted, but will be fighting for only the second time in his comeback.

Odds makers make Wilder the 9-5 favorite, but there are legitimate questions about both men that still have to be answered. By the time they're finished with 12 rounds or less the heavyweight picture should be in clearer focus and the winner should have a clear path to Joshua.

This is boxing, of course, so anything can happen. But it would be hard for Joshua to keep claiming he's the best if he doesn't fight the best.

In the meantime, boxing fans will have to be content seeing just two who might just be the best. □

Rain washes out 1st day of India four-day tour match



Covers protect the wicket at the Sydney Cricket Ground as rain delays the start of a cricket tour match between India and the Cricket Australia XI in Sydney, Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018.

Associated Press

Associated Press

SYDNEY (AP) — The first day of India's only tour match ahead of the first cricket test against Australia has been washed out by torrential rain.

The four-day match against a Cricket Australia XI was scheduled to start Wednesday morning, but storms and heavy downpours ensured the covers stayed on at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

The forecast was so poor that India's test squad never arrived at the SCG. The showers did eventually stop and there was brief hope of a mid-afternoon toss, but play was abandoned without a single delivery being bowled.

India captain Virat Kohli opted for a gym session for the team rather than a day off. The match was only originally scheduled for three days before Cricket

Australia (CA) agreed to add Wednesday's earlier start at India's request.

India will also be able to use 14 players from its squad after asking for the game not to be given first-class status.

The first of the four-test series begins on Dec. 6 in Adelaide. The teams play the final test beginning Jan. 3 at the SCG, with others at Perth and Melbourne in between. □

Hailing the future taxi: Drone-car mashup model takes flight

By **MIKE CORDER**

Associated Press

AMSTERDAM (AP) — A scale model of a flying drone-car drove and hovered across an Amsterdam exhibition hall Tuesday, providing a glimpse of what could be the future of urban mobility. The "Pop.Up Next" prototype drone, being developed by aviation giant Airbus, automaker Audi and the Italdesign design house is made up of three separate modules — a chassis with wheels, a two-seat capsule for passengers and a four-rotor drone. The concept has been shown before, but a one-quarter-size scale model made its maiden public flight at the Amsterdam Drone Week convention.

First, the drone flew across the hall and landed on a black parking spot. Then a small car drove itself underneath the drone and its passenger capsule was lifted up to latch onto the underside of the drone. Once the two were docked, the drone lifted off again and flew back to its starting



Pop.Up Next, a prototype designed by Audi, Airbus and Italdesign is displayed at the Amsterdam Drone Week in Amsterdam, Netherlands, Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018.

Associated Press

point, where the capsule was lowered onto another set of wheels to continue its journey. The model's test flight went off without a hitch, but don't plan on hailing such an airborne ride any time soon. There are several steps to be tak-

en before the Pop.Up Next, or a future iteration of the drone, is ready for commercial use.

"For this we need to tick a list of boxes — the vehicle is one, safety is the overarching one, infrastructure is one, acceptability is an-

other one," said Airbus executive Jean Brice Dumont. "I think it will take more than a decade until a real significant, massive deployment of an air taxi system" is ready.

One serious competitor plans to be ready even ear-

lier. Uber unveiled an artist's impression a year ago of a sleek machine it hopes to start using for demonstration flights in 2020 and to have in service in 2023. Uber's battery-powered aircraft looks like a cross between a small plane and a helicopter, with fixed wings and rotors.

Meanwhile, a Dutch company has developed its own flying vehicle called the PAL-V Liberty that is a three-wheeled, two-seat car and gyroplane rolled into one. At the Amsterdam convention, European regulators also are discussing how to keep the continent's airspace safe as more and more drones take to the skies. European Union rules are expected to come into force next year harmonizing drone regulations across the 28-nation bloc. "As this industry is rapidly expanding, it is important for us to anticipate market developments and be prepared for change," said Patrick Ky, executive director of the European Aviation Safety Agency. □

New Zealand halts Huawei from 5G upgrade over security fears

By **NICK PERRY**

Associated Press

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — New Zealand's international spy agency on Wednesday halted mobile company Spark from using Huawei equipment in its planned 5G upgrade, saying it posed a "significant network security risk." The action follows a ban in Australia, where the Chinese telecommunications giant was blocked in August from rolling out Australia's 5G network due to security concerns.

In New Zealand, Huawei has previously helped build mobile networks. In March, Spark and Huawei showcased a 5G test site across the street from the Parliament, in a publicity move that was attended by then Broadcasting Minister Clare Curran.

The latest development could have diplomatic



In this Sept. 26, 2018, file photo, a staff member uses a laptop computer at a display for 5G wireless technology from Chinese technology firm Huawei at the PT Expo in Beijing.

Associated Press

and economic implications for New Zealand, which relies on China as its largest trading partner but which is also part of the "Five Eyes" security alliance that includes the U.S., Britain, Canada and Australia. At a daily briefing in Beijing,

Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said China was "severely concerned" over the decision.

"The economic and trade cooperation between China and New Zealand is mutually beneficial in nature," Geng said. "We hope

New Zealand will provide a level-playing field for Chinese enterprises' operation there and do something conducive for mutual trust and cooperation."

New Zealand was the first developed nation to sign a free-trade deal with China

in 2008, and China buys billions of dollars of New Zealand's dairy exports each year, which are often used in making infant formula.

New Zealand's previous conservative government had a close relationship with China. But over the past year under liberal Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, New Zealand has pulled back somewhat, embracing a warmer relationship with Japan and putting resources into the Pacific, in part to counter China's growing influence there.

Huawei suffered a setback in the U.S. market in 2012 when a congressional report said it was a security risk and warned phone companies not to buy its equipment.

The private Chinese company was started by a former People's Liberation Army major in 1987. □

Stocks surge as investors hope Fed will slow its rate hikes

By MARLEY JAY
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stock indexes rose sharply Wednesday as investors welcomed remarks by Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell. Powell hinted that the Fed might be willing to raise interest rates at a slower pace next year, a potential relief for investors worried about slowing economic growth.

Software maker Salesforce led a rally in technology companies and health care stocks were also higher. Luxury retailer Tiffany plunged after saying tourists from China pulled back on spending in its latest quarter.

KEEPING SCORE: The S&P 500 index surged 37 points, or 1.4 percent, to 2,720 as of 12:20 p.m. Eastern time. The Dow Jones Industrial Average jumped 424 points, or 1.7 percent, to 25,177. About half of that gain came shortly after noon, when the text of Powell's speech was released.

The Nasdaq composite rose 116 points, or 1.6 percent, to 7,199. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks gained 22 points, or 1.5 percent, to 1,515.

KA-POWELL: In a speech to the Economic Club of New York, Powell said the financial system and markets appear far sturdier than they did before the 2008 crisis. Recent remarks by Powell and other officials have made investors more hopeful that the Fed might raise interest rates at a slower pace next year.

The Fed has been steadily raising those rates since the end of 2015 and is expected to announce another increase in December. But with economic growth in the U.S. and other regions likely to slow down next year, investors are concerned that rising interest rates will hinder the economy and the bull market.

Bond prices turned higher, sending yields lower. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 3.04 percent from 3.05 percent. The yield on the 2-year note fell to 2.80 percent from 2.81 percent.



Specialist Michael Pistillo watches the screens at his post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018.

The dollar fell to 113.60 yen from 113.79 yen. The euro rose to \$1.1353 from \$1.1296.

OUT IN FORCE: Customer-management software developer Salesforce climbed 6.2 percent to \$135.49 after its earnings and revenue were stronger than analysts expected. That helped pull technology companies higher. Software maker Adobe rose 5.9 percent to \$245.70 and cloud computing company Citrix Systems added 2.4 percent to \$111.16. Microsoft rose 2.5 percent to \$109.80 and Apple picked up 2.2 percent to \$178.05.

DIAMOND CUT: Tiffany skidded 11.6 percent to \$92.75 after it said foreign tourists, especially from China, didn't spend as much at its stores in its latest quarter. That contributed to disappointing sales for the company. Chinese economic growth has slowed since the government clamped down on bank lending last year as part of an effort to rein in surging debt. The U.S.-China trade dispute has also contributed to the slowdown.

Rival jeweler Signet lost 5.2 percent to \$50.06.

HOME SALES SINK AGAIN: The Commerce Department said sales of new U.S. homes plummeted 8.9 percent in October and the number of newly built, unsold homes sitting on

the market climbed to the highest level since 2009. Sales of new homes have dropped 12 percent over the last year as higher mortgage rates have caused would-be buyers to back away. Sales of already-built homes have also fallen this year.

The drop in home sales has made some investors nervous. They view home sales as an indicator of how much money people are willing to spend because a home is the biggest item most people will purchase. It's also crushed homebuilder stocks. The S&P index of homebuilders is down 30 percent this year.

JAMMED UP: Jam and packaged food maker J.M. Smucker fell 5.6 percent to \$103.05 after it reported a smaller profit and less revenue than analysts had expected. Smucker also pared its forecasts for the full year.

General Mills lost 1.7 percent to \$41.73.

STABILIZING? Boeing recovered a sliver of its recent losses as investigators in Indonesia discussed their probe into the crash of a Boeing 737 MAX 8. Indonesian authorities said they are still struggling to understand why the plane crashed, but added that faulty equipment and carrier Lion Air's own safety failures had pilots fighting for control of the plane as it fell

into the Java Sea on Oct. 28, killing all 189 people aboard.

The MAX is Boeing's newest plane, and questions about the crash have pulled Boeing's stock lower. The stock rose 4 percent to \$330.32 Wednesday, but it's

still down 11 percent since Nov. 8, when federal regulators gave an emergency directive telling pilots how to handle incorrect data from a sensor that may have malfunctioned during the flight.

Pilots for U.S. airlines have said that they were not told about a new feature in the MAX that could pitch the nose down sharply if sensors indicate that the plane is about to stall.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude turned higher and gained 0.3 percent to \$51.73 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, the standard for international oil prices, rose 0.3 percent to \$60.60 a barrel in London.

OVERSEAS: The FTSE 100 in Britain fell 0.2 percent and Germany's DAX lost 0.1 percent. France's CAC 40 was little changed.

Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 rose 1 percent and South Korea's Kospi recovered 0.4 percent. Hong Kong's Hang Seng added 1.3 percent. □

Associated Press

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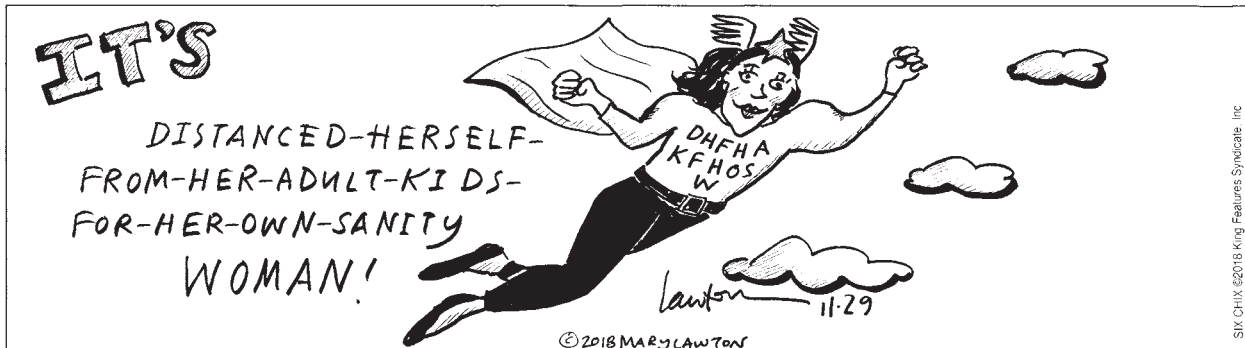
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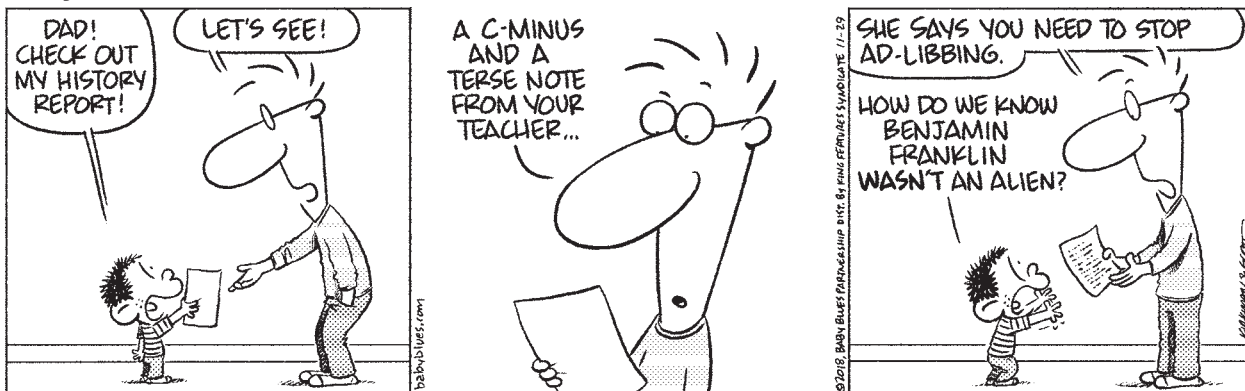
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		2	4					
	6	4	2	3				
3	9		1					
8	1	3						
	5						4	
						6	5	3
				1		7	8	
			2	5	4	6		
			7	2				

Difficulty Level ★★★

11/29

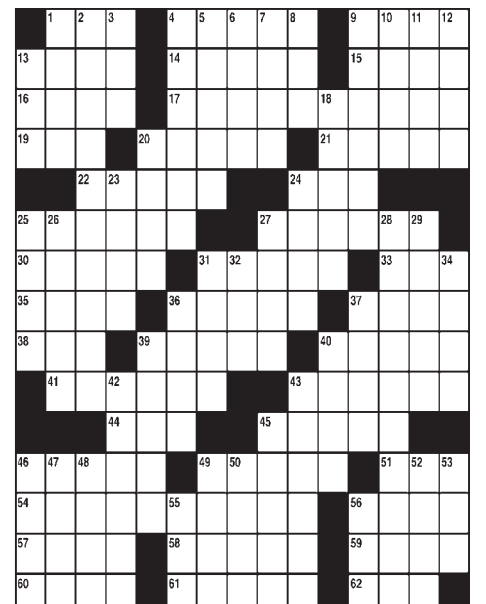
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

3	5	1	4	6	9	8	7	2
2	7	6	1	5	8	3	4	9
4	8	9	2	7	3	6	1	5
9	6	4	3	1	7	5	2	8
7	2	5	9	8	4	1	6	3
1	3	8	5	2	6	4	9	7
5	9	2	8	4	1	7	3	6
8	4	7	6	3	2	9	5	1
6	1	3	7	9	5	2	8	4

ACROSS

- Curvy letter
- Inaccurate
- Made fun of
- Part of a royal flush
- As sore as
- Angelou or Rudolph
- Sore
- Merchant
- Fraternity letter
- Pauses
- Part of a knife
- than; besides
- J. Edgar Hoover's agcy.
- Bar
- Give a sermon
- Fess up
- Sandwich maker's need
- Know-; ability
- Hockey score
- Compensate
- Actress Delany
- Isn't to; probably won't
- Bursting at the; too full
- Generous one
- Wobble
- Ready for dinner
- Steward or Carew
- Stupid
- Toss
- Skate smoothly
- Spanish article
- Not easily restrained
- Student summons
- Egg on
- Spend foolishly
- Catch sight of
- away; leaves
- Follows orders
- Burro



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

11/29/18

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

MOO	AMPLE	TECH
RUMP	BALES	ACHY
STIR	SPENT	CHAD
STIMULATE	TORE	
MIRE	ELI	
ASCEND	MAMACASS	
SWORD	MOPES	GAP
TEAS	BOWED	MINI
EDS	FADED	MELEE
RETAINED	LINERS	
FTD	SEAT	
SCAR	ACCESSORY	
COME	NOONS	REAL
ACES	NOISE	SARI
MASH	ALLEN	DDIE

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11/29/18

DOWN

- Apiece
- Kid in the next desk
- Firmament
- together; connect securely
- Detest
- Thrown for a; confused
- Uses a straw
- Forest animal
- Aviator Earhart
- Family member
- Observed
- "How you!"; cry of outrage
- Jolt
- Receded
- Fired a gun
- Work hard
- Become unraveled
- Heroic narrative
- Embrace as one's own
- Tiny veggies
- Constant
- "thy father and thy mother"
- Yogi or Boo-Boo
- Spinning stat
- Cautious
- Tall piece of marsh grass
- Adams & Johnson
- Stores away
- Sand mound
- Wears away
- Trimmed shrubs
- Moore; brand of canned beef stew
- Gangster
- Sandwich type
- Hit the ceiling
- Snatch
- Misplace
- Mont Blanc's range
- Devious
- Deuce
- "Who Wants to Millionaire"



This Sept. 27, 2011, file photo shows a gopher frog at the Audubon Zoo in New Orleans.

Associated Press

Supreme Court orders new look at case of endangered frog

By KEVIN MCGILL
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Federal judges must look again at an agency's decision to declare a tract of Louisiana timberland "critical habitat" for an endangered Southeastern frog, following a ruling Tuesday by the nation's highest court. The U.S. Supreme Court's 8-0 ruling concerns the endangered dusky gopher frog, currently found only in Mississippi. At issue in the case is a 1,500-acre (607-hectare) tract of land in St. Tammany Parish, north of New Orleans. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service designated it as critical habitat for the small amphibians. That could limit the possibilities for development and use of the land.

Opponents of the designation cast it as an unjust land grab by an overreaching bureaucracy. Environmentalists had backed the ruling as a needed environmental protection. The wildlife service had won in a federal District Court and at the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans. But the Supreme Court ruled that the 5th Circuit must look at the unanswered question of what constitutes "habitat," and whether the tract qualifies as habitat for the 3 1/2-inch-long frogs. The opinion said none have been spotted in the area for decades and the area would now require modification, such as controlled burns of forest areas, to be suitable for them. □



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Another gene-edited baby may be on the way, scientist says

By **MARILYNN MARCHIONE**
AP Chief Medical Writer

HONG KONG (AP) — A Chinese researcher who claims to have helped make the world's first genetically edited babies says a second pregnancy may be under-way.

The researcher, He Jiankui of Shenzhen, revealed the pregnancy Wednesday while making his first public comments about his controversial work at an international conference in Hong Kong.

He claims to have altered the DNA of twin girls born earlier this month to try to make them resistant to infection with the AIDS virus. Mainstream scientists have condemned the experiment, and universities and government groups are investigating.

The second pregnancy is in a very early stage and needs more time to be monitored to see if it will last, He said.

Leading scientists said there are now even more reasons to worry, and more questions than answers, after He's talk. The leader of the conference called the experiment "irresponsible" and evidence that the scientific community had failed to regulate itself to prevent premature efforts to alter DNA.

Altering DNA before or at the time of conception is highly controversial because the changes can be inherited and might harm other genes. It's banned in some countries including the United States except for lab research.

He defended his choice of HIV, rather than a fatal inherited disease, as a test case for gene editing, and insisted the girls could benefit from it.

"They need this protection

since a vaccine is not available," He said.

Scientists weren't buying it. "This is a truly unacceptable

or refused to answer many questions including who paid for his work, how he ensured that participants

lation by the scientific community" and said the conference committee would meet and issue a state-

of Social Sciences criticized the decision to let He speak at the conference, saying the claim "should not be on our agenda" until it has been reviewed by independent experts. Whether He violated reproductive medicine laws in China has been unclear; Qui contends that it did, but said, "the problem is, there's no penalty."

The U.S. National Institutes of Health said Wednesday there should be international intervention.

"Without such limits, the world will face the serious risk of a deluge of similarly ill-considered and unethical projects," the agency said in a statement.

Meanwhile, more American scientists said they had contact with He and were aware of or suspected what he was doing.

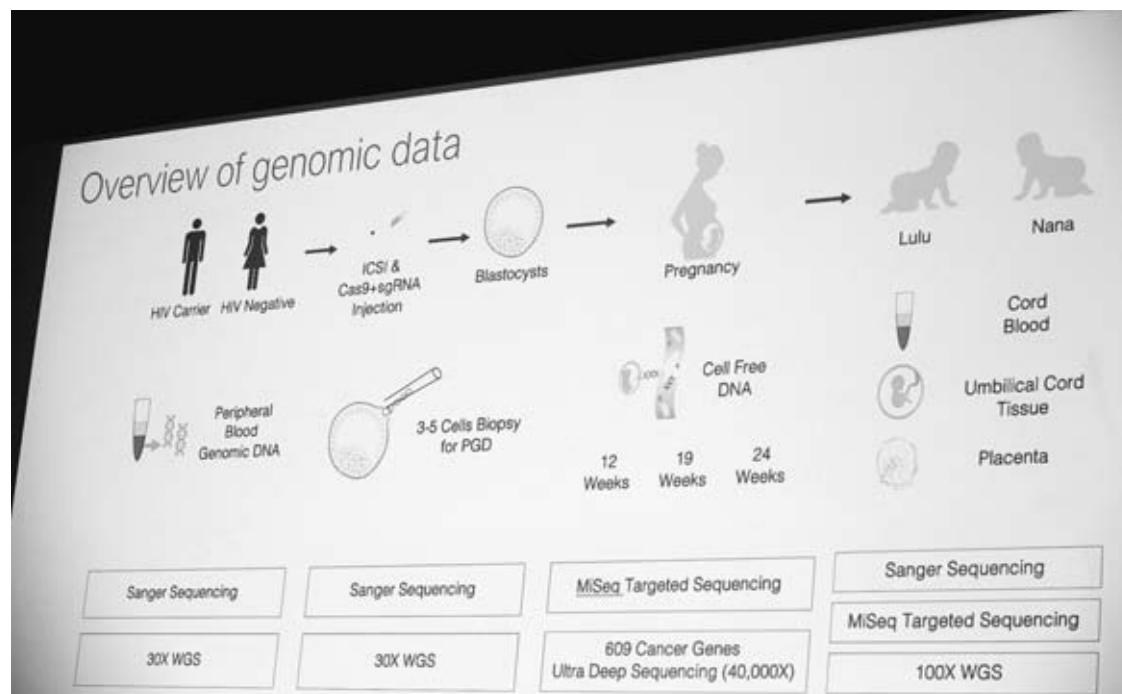
Dr. Matthew Porteus, a genetics researcher at Stanford University, where He did postdoctoral research, said He told him in February that he intended to try human gene editing. Porteus said he discouraged He and told him "that it was irresponsible, that he could risk the entire field of gene editing by doing this in a cavalier fashion."

Dr. William Hurlbut, a Stanford ethicist, said he has "spent many hours" talking with He over the last two years about situations where gene editing might be appropriate.

"I knew his early work. I knew where he was heading," Hurlbut said. When he saw He four or five weeks ago, He did not say he had tried or achieved pregnancy with edited embryos but "I strongly suspected" it, Hurlbut said.

"I disagree with the notion of stepping out of the general consensus of the scientific community," Hurlbut said. If the science is not considered ready or safe enough, "it's going to create misunderstanding, discordance and distrust."

Jennifer Doudna and David Liu are paid by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, which also supports AP's Health & Science Department. □



A screen shows information of genomic data while He Jiankui, a Chinese researcher, speaking during the Human Genome Editing Conference in Hong Kong, Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018.

Associated Press

development," said Jennifer Doudna, a University of California-Berkeley scientist and one of the inventors of the CRISPR gene-editing tool that He said he used. "I'm grateful that he appeared today, but I don't think that we heard answers. We still need to understand the motivation for this." "I feel more disturbed now," said David Liu of Harvard and MIT's Broad Institute, and inventor of a variation of the gene-editing tool. "It's an appalling example of what not to do about a promising technology that has great potential to benefit society. I hope it never happens again." There is no independent confirmation of He's claim and he has not yet published in any scientific journal where it would be vetted by experts. At the conference, He failed

understood potential risks and benefits, and why he kept his work secret until after it was done.

After He spoke, David Baltimore, a Nobel laureate from the California Institute of Technology and a leader of the conference, said He's work "would still be considered irresponsible" because it did not meet criteria many scientists agreed on several years ago before gene editing could be considered.

"I personally don't think that it was medically necessary. The choice of the diseases that we heard discussions about earlier today are much more pressing" than trying to prevent HIV infection this way, he said.

If gene editing is ever allowed, many scientists have said it should be reserved to treat and prevent serious inherited disorders with no good alternatives, such as sickle cell anemia and Huntington's disease. HIV is not an appropriate candidate because there are already safe ways to prevent transmission, and if contracted it can be kept under control with medications, researchers said.

The case shows "there has been a failure of self-regu-

ment on Thursday about the future of the field, Baltimore said.

Before He's talk, Dr. George Daley, Harvard Medical School's dean and one of the conference organizers, warned against a backlash to gene editing because of He's experiment. Just because the first case may have been a misstep "should in no way, I think, lead us to stick our heads in the sand and not consider the very, very positive aspects that could come forth by a more responsible pathway," Daley said.

"Scientists who go rogue ... it carries a deep, deep cost to the scientific community," Daley said.

Shortly after his talk, He canceled a planned appearance in a Thursday session on embryo gene editing, according to the Royal Society, one of the conference organizers.

The National Health Commission has ordered local officials in Guangdong province to investigate He's actions, and his employer, Southern University of Science and Technology of China, is investigating as well.

On Tuesday, Qiu Renzong of the Chinese Academy

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Death becomes her: Women make inroads in funeral industry

By TED SHAFFREY
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A training program for the next generation of morticians and undertakers is testament to a change that is slowly remaking the funeral business.

Sixty of the 75 students in the program at the State University of New York Canton are women, and those numbers are no fluke.

In 2017, nearly 65 percent of graduates from funeral director programs in the United States were female, according to the American Board of Funeral Service Education. That's the highest number ever recorded by the board. Women are being drawn in record numbers to a profession in which, just a few decades ago, it was rare for anyone but men to work.

Women coming out of the SUNY Canton program, though, say that for all the progress, they still encounter barriers. While a majority of people looking to enter the profession are women, 74 percent of morticians and funeral directors are still men, according to 2016 U.S. Census Bureau data. Stereotypes about women not being strong enough to



In this Monday, Oct. 22, 2018, photo, funeral director Darien Frederick describes funeral options at Cleveland Funeral Home in Watertown, N.Y.

Associated Press

lift coffins, or worries about exposing pregnant workers to embalming chemicals, make some male funeral home owners reluctant to hire women.

"I feel like that's a staggering issue that women face in this industry," said funeral services student Anna Deloria, 20. "When you go

for your residency, which is a long-term internship for a year to get your license, a lot of funeral directors stop you and they are like, 'I wanted a man' because they think a woman can't lift as much."

Darien Frederick, 21, who graduated from the SUNY Canton program last year

and is now a funeral director at Cleveland Funeral Home in Watertown, New York, said some customers still have qualms about women, too.

"I did have a family come in and say they did not want any female funeral directors running their funeral," Frederick said. "And you

can respect those wishes, and that's fine, and I understand that's how the older generation was. I'm not hurt by it, but those stigmas are changing."

Through the early Victorian era, caring for the dead was very much a women's role in the U.S.

Death care took place in the home, more often than in institutional settings, and preparing a body for burial was a family matter.

That began to change during the Civil War, when embalming fluids allowed families to bring dead soldiers home from the battlefield. And embalming necessitated a scientific education, from which women were then being systematically excluded. Men quickly came to dominate the new death care industry, as did a false notion that women were too squeamish or emotional to handle death.

David Penepent, director of the funeral services program at SUNY Canton, said that while some of those issues are fading, women face other barriers when entering the profession, like low pay and impatient bosses during residency training. □

200 years of 'Silent Night': Singers mark carol's birthday

By DEEPTI HAJELA
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — One of the most famous songs of Christmas was celebrated Tuesday as it approaches its 200th anniversary, with a concert at the New York City church where "Silent Night" is believed to have been sung in the United States for the first time and where a priest was the first to publish an English translation of the Austrian carol. The performance of the carol by Austria's Kroll Family Singers and ensembles from Trinity Church took place at the Alexander Hamilton memorial in the Trinity churchyard. The singers stood in front of the memorial in the darkened yard as onlookers gathered and horns from passing cars

beeped on nearby streets. The Kroll singers opened

the carol with verses in the original German, followed

by the Trinity singers with verses in languages includ-



The Kroell Family Singers, Gerlinde, left, Elisabeth, center, and Christiane, sing Christmas Carols during a celebration of the song "Silent Night," at Trinity Church, Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018, in New York.

Associated Press

ing French, Spanish, and finally English. After the outdoor performance, they went inside the church, where the Austrian group sang some other songs before they finished with another rendition of "Silent Night."

The song resonates with people because of its simple melody and straightforward message, said Elisabeth Frontull, a member of the Kroll group.

"You sing it from the bottom of your heart; that's the reason why the song is so popular," she said.

Organizers of the event said it's believed the song was first sung at the Trinity Church location in 1839 by the Rainer family singers, a traveling singing group from Austria. □

Just in time for Christmas, a zombie holiday musical

Associated Press

Consider it an early Christmas gift: "Anna and the Apocalypse" is the zombie horror holiday musical you didn't know you needed. Just imagining that first pitch meeting is entertainment in itself. "It's 'High School Musical' meets 'World War Z!' No no, it's 'Glee' meets 'Shaun of the Dead!' Hold on ... it's Christmas! OK, 'Love Actually' meets 'The Walking Dead!'" Whatever its cinematic antecedents, "Anna," which boasts an appealing cast of fresh-faced newcomers and a quirky Scottish sensibility, is charming, often clever, and unexpectedly moving, too. And who's to say we're not ready for a zombie horror holiday musical? Compared to your average TV newscast these days, it's positively relaxing. The film, directed by John McPhail with catchy original songs by Roddy Hart and Tommy Reilly, has a sad backstory. It's based on a BAFTA-winning short film, "Zombie Musical," by Ryan McHenry, who died at age



This image released by Orion Pictures shows Ella Hunt in a scene from the film "Anna and the Apocalypse."

Associated Press

27 of cancer in 2015 just as his project was on the way to becoming a feature film. (He shares a writing credit here with Alan McDonald.) The new film has the undeniable asset of Ella Hunt in the lead role, charismatic and touching as teen heroine Anna. At 18, Anna is

ready to graduate high school in her small Scottish town of Little Haven, and keen to experience the world. As we begin, she's informing her dad (the perfectly cast Mark Benton), who's raising her alone, that she plans to postpone university and travel to Aus-

tralia. He is NOT amused. Dad's the janitor at Anna's high school, which is run by a misfit headmaster, Savage (Paul Kaye, whose sneers become nastier by the minute.) The first part of the movie — we'll call it the "High School Musical" section — introduces

us to the typical slate of teen characters and their struggles. To name a few, there's Anna's best friend, John (a highly likable Malcolm Cumming), the nice guy who secretly loves her; there's army brat Nick (Ben Wiggins), the conceited bully who's dated and dumped her; there's Steph (Sarah Swire, who also choreographed the musical numbers!), a brooding aspiring journalist neglected by her wealthy parents. Everyone's coping with the usual teenage pressures as they seek to define themselves and prepare for imminent adulthood. What they don't expect is, um, a zombie apocalypse. It happens suddenly one day. Heading out of the house, Anna puts her headphones in and sings cheerfully of a beautiful new morning. "What a time to be alive," she sings, and dances, oblivious to the murderous zombie mayhem happening in the suburban streets around her. It's the film's most entertaining number. □

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NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 5

<p>NEW THIS WEEK!</p> <p>RALPH BREAKS THE INTERNET WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG] MON-FRI 3:50 6:15 8:40 SAT-SUN 1:15 1:45 3:50 6:15 8:40 SPANISH MON-SUN 4:20</p>	<p>OZUNA CLARISA MOLINA QUE LEÓN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES [PG-13] MON-THU 7:25 9:30 FRI 7:25 9:30 11:35 SAT 1:00 3:05 7:25 9:30 11:35 SUN 1:00 3:05 7:25 9:30</p>
	<p>SHAY MITCHELL GREY DAMON POSSESSION OF HANNAH GRACE WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [R] MON-THU 5:35 7:35 9:35 FRI 5:35 7:35 9:35 11:35 SAT 3:35 5:35 7:35 9:35 11:35 SUN 3:35 5:35 7:35 9:35</p>
	<p>LILY NEWMARK KRISTEN RUHLIN welcome to MERCY MON-FRI 5:35 SAT-SUN 3:20 5:35</p>
	<p>EDDIE REDMAYNE JOHNNY DEPP THE CRIMES OF GRINDELWALD ALL FORMATS WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13] MON-THU & SUN 7:50 FRI-SAT 7:50 10:35 MON-FRI 6:00 SAT-SUN 3:15 6:00</p>
<p>TARAN EGERTON JAMIE FOXX ROBIN HOOD WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13] MON-THU & SUN 5:10 9:20 FRI-SAT 5:10 9:20 11:50</p>	<p>BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH CAMERON SEELY THE GRINCH WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG] MON-FRI 4:50 6:55 SAT-SUN 1:10 2:45 4:50 6:55</p>
<p>RAMI MALEK LUCY BOYNTON BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13] MON-SUN 9:00</p>	<p>MARK WAHLBERG ROSE BYRNE instant family WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13] MON-SUN 4:55</p>
<p>VIOLA DAVIS LIAM NEESON WIDOWS WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [R] MON-SUN 8:45</p>	

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Andrew McMahon's new album saturated with nostalgia

By PABLO GORONDI

Associated Press

Andrew McMahon in the Wilderness, "Upside Down Flowers" (Fantasy Records)

Andrew McMahon in the Wilderness saturates "Upside Down Flowers" with nostalgia about family and youth in Southern

California, loading the 11 piano-based pop songs with strings, wistful vocals and plenty of instrumental input from producer Butch Walker. This is McMahon's third album under this moniker after stints with Something Corporate and Jack's Mannequin and follows up 2017's "Zombies on Broadway" by stripping off a decade or three from that record's electronic sounds to create an intimacy that varies between translucent and super-charged. On album ice-breaker "Teenage Rockstars," McMahon battles through a sea of echo for what's said to be a based-on-his-true-story of a band which started playing for the hometown crowd, achieved wider success and ended in acrimony. □



This cover image released by Fantasy Records shows "Upside Down Flowers," by Andrew McMahon in the Wilderness.

Associated Press

'SpongeBob' creator Stephen Hillenburg dies at 57

By ANDREW DALTON

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Stephen Hillenburg, who used his dual loves of drawing and marine biology to spawn the absurd under-sea world of "SpongeBob SquarePants," has died, Nickelodeon announced Tuesday.

Hillenburg died Monday of Lou Gehrig's disease, also known as ALS, the cable network said in a statement. He was 57.

He had announced he had the disease in March 2017. His death comes just weeks after the passing of another cartoon hero in Marvel creator Stan Lee.

Hillenburg conceived, wrote, produced and directed the animated series that began in 1999 and bloomed into hundreds of episodes, movies and a Broadway show.

The eternally, obviously jolly SpongeBob and his yell-along theme song that opened "Who lives in a pineapple under the sea?!" quickly appealed to college kids and parents as much as it did kids.

"The essence of the show is that SpongeBob is an innocent in a world of jaded characters," Hillenburg told The Associated Press



In this Jan. 31, 2015 file photo, SpongeBob SquarePants creator Stephen Hillenburg attends the world premiere of "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out Of Water" in New York.

Associated Press

in 2001. "The rest is absurd packaging."

Its vast cast of oceanic creatures included SpongeBob's starfish sidekick Patrick, his tightwad boss Mr. Krabs, and his always-exasperated neighbor Squidward Tentacles. Hillenburg's undersea world of Bikini Bottom was a realm like no other, real or fictional. SpongeBob can play his nose like a flute and could not possibly be happier to

work his fast-seafood job of flipping Krabby Patties.

But he has his troubles, too. He constantly fails his boat-driving test, forcing his frightened blowfish teacher to inflate. In one episode he suffers a broken butt and is afraid to leave his pineapple home for days. "I don't want to face my fears," SpongeBob, voiced by Tom Kenny, says in another episode. "I'm afraid of them!"

Kenny presented Hillenburg with a special honor at the Daytime Emmy Awards in April, and said in his speech that Hillenburg himself is the embodiment of his main character.

"SpongeBob's vocal cords might be mine," Kenny said. "But SpongeBob's playful spirit of gentle anarchy, his humor and the joy he takes in his vibrant, colorful, music-filled world come directly, directly, 100 percent

from my good buddy, Mr. Stephen Hillenburg."

Born at his father's army post in Lawton, Oklahoma, Hillenburg graduated from Humboldt State University in California in 1984 with a degree in natural resource planning with a marine emphasis, and went on to teach marine biology at the Orange County Marine Institute.

While there he drew a comic, "The Intertidal Zone," that he used as a teaching tool. It featured anthropomorphic ocean creatures that were precursors to the characters on "SpongeBob."

Hillenburg shifted to drawing and earned a master of fine arts degree in animation from the California Institute of the Arts in 1992.

He worked on the Nickelodeon show "Rocko's Modern Life," from 1993 to 1996 before he began to build SpongeBob's universe, which showed off his knowledge of marine life and willingness to throw all the details out the window. "We know that fish don't walk," he told the AP in 2001.

"And if you know much about sponges, you know that living sponges aren't square." □

Stevie Wonder announces plan to help California fire victims

By JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Stevie Wonder wants to raise money through his benefit concert for California fire victims impacted by the catastrophic wildfires.

The R&B legend announced his plan Tuesday to also help firefighters and first responders who assisted with the fires through his 22nd annual House Full of Toys Benefit Concert on Dec. 9. The charity billed as "The Stevie Wonder Song Party: A Celebration of Life, Love & Music" will be held at the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

Concertgoers are being asked to bring an un-

wrapped toy or other gift.

"We have to do our best to raise money for those that have been so less fortunate, for those that have lost dreams, lost their homes," he said.

"I am very happy to do this again this year but very, very, very excited to do something to help those in a bigger sense the less fortunate."

Wonder said his foundation House Full of Hope along with the Entertainment Industry Foundation will also help raise money for those affected by the wildfire.

Nearly 90 people were killed in the massive wildfires as thousands have been displaced from their

homes.

After his announcement, Wonder performed a few songs including "My Cherie Amour," "The Christmas Song (Merry Christmas to You)" and "Golden Lady." Wonder also spoke on the importance of taking care of the planet.

"I know we're dealing with a drought," he said. "There are some who don't believe in global warming. I do. We have to protect the planet."

We have to be cognizant of what we do. ... I pray that all of us, even those who are non-believers, understand that if we don't love and take care of our planet, we won't have it." □



Stevie Wonder performs live at the "House Full of Toys 22nd Annual Benefit Concert" press conference on Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Ikea moving into city centers to adapt to consumer changes

By VANESSA GERA

Associated Press

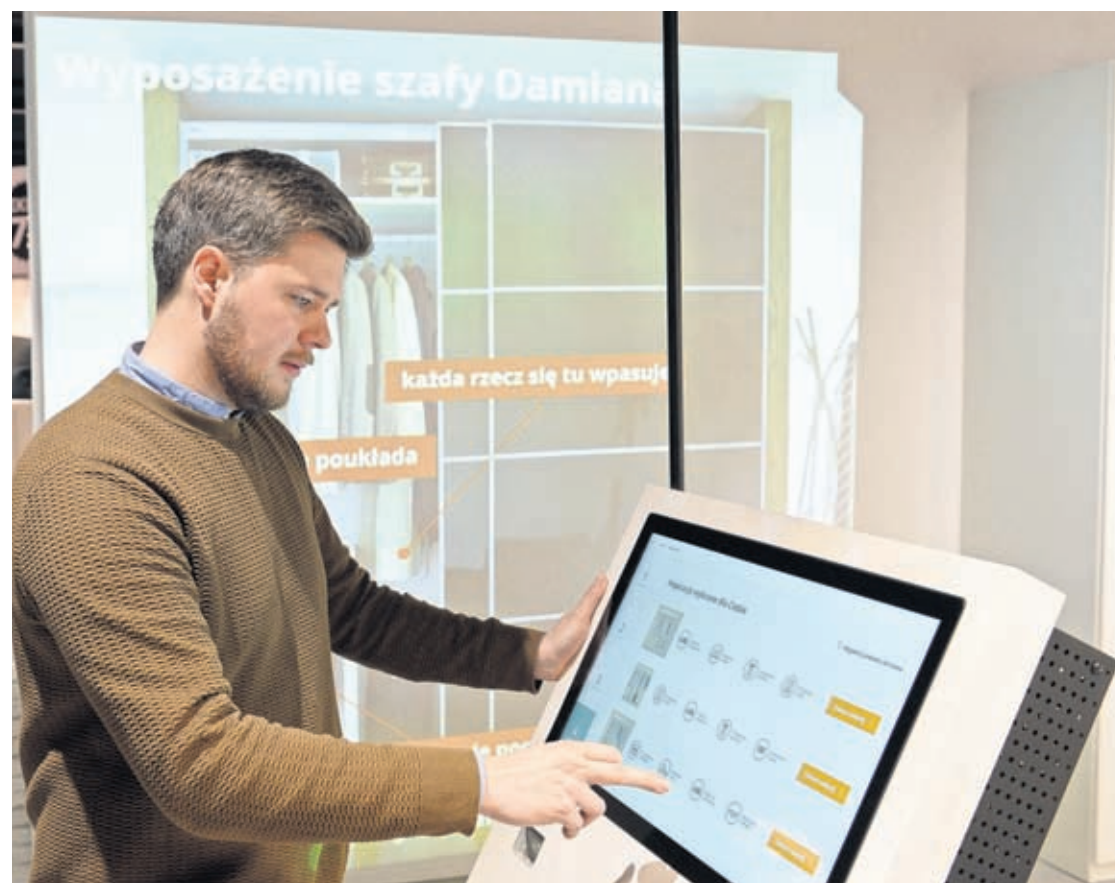
WARSAW, Poland (AP) —

An airport worker drops by Warsaw's newest Ikea store during her lunch break to finish up plans for a home refurbishment. Around her, people drift in and out of the shop, placing small houseware items in big yellow bags as cafe tables fill up with people just stopping in for lunch.

The store is not one of Ikea's out-of-the-way, maze-like warehouses that require a car to visit, but a shop like any other in a city center shopping mall. The Swedish retailing giant plans to open 30 such smaller stores in major cities around the world as part of a transformation that is costing the company financially but is needed to adapt to changing consumer habits. Compared with just a decade ago, shoppers are more likely to be living in urban areas and not have a car, and often want a nearby location to look at goods like furniture in person before ordering things online.

"I like the idea because you can come any time," said 29-year-old Angelika Singh, the airport worker, as she finalized an order for a new kitchen. "Mostly when you go to Ikea you need to have a whole day free, or at least half a day free, because it's far."

Warsaw's store is located on two floors covering nearly 5,000 square meters



In this Thursday Nov. 22, 2018 photo, Andreas Flygare, the project manager for the new Warsaw Ikea store presents a system projecting furniture interior a wall, in Warsaw, Poland.

Associated Press

(54,000 square feet), about one-fourth of a traditional big-box store.

Shoppers can buy cushions, curtains and other home items. They can design the layout of bedrooms and kitchens at computer stations.

But those hoping to buy a bookcase or bed will not find them stocked in a large warehouse, though they can order them at kiosks and have them delivered to their homes.

As such, it offers a very different shopping experience from the usual visit to one of the large warehouse

stores.

Small stores have also opened in major cities like Madrid and London, which has a small new "planning studio" for kitchen and bedroom projects. Next year smaller stores are also due to open in Paris and Tokyo.

"Ikea's been doing pretty much the same for 70 years. It's been a cash-and-carry company, and it still is for the majority of its sales," said Andreas Flygare, the project manager for the Warsaw store. Now, he explained, the company must adapt to a consumer environment that has changed dramatically in the last 10 years.

"You have companies like Amazon and Uber that are raising the bar for what is expected. Because if you can have same-day delivery, or an Uber is two minutes away, it influences other companies, like Ikea," he said in a recent interview in the store's cafe. "It can be a quite tough environment. Everything is changing so fast."

The company, whose founder Ingvar Kamprad died in January, has seen business growth slow in recent years. But updating its business model to rein-

vigorate sales is not coming cheap. On Wednesday, it reported that its operating profit for the full year through August had dropped 26 percent to 2.25 billion euros (\$2.55 billion) as it increased spending on the new stores as well as delivery services and its on-line offerings.

Thomas Slide, senior retail analyst at the market research firm Mintel, described Ikea's new approach as a rational response to a "global trend towards urban living and a rebirth of the cities."

"While Ikea used to be able to build its big blue

warehouses on the edge of towns and cities and expect shoppers to come to them, now it has recognized it needs to be more flexible in its approach and take the Ikea experience to them, through digital channels and smaller stores closer to where people live and work," Slide said.

Ikea isn't the first to embrace such an approach. In the U.S., retailer Target has rolled out smaller stores to broaden its reach. French hardware store Leroy Merlin has done the same, as have Kingfisher-owned DIY store B&Q and sofa retailer DFS in Britain.

"While Ikea may not be on the cutting edge of this trend, it's an important strategy to prepare the business for the future," Slide said. "The challenge will be adding extra services through additional channels while also maintaining profitability."

Chen Yu Ting, a 25-year-old from Taiwan who studies medicine in Warsaw, said it used to take him 40 minutes by bus to visit one of the large Ikea stores outside the city.

But he is a short walk to the new store, and after an initial trip to buy pillows and bed sheets he now returns often for lunch, which is priced right for his budget. "It's more convenient, and now I just come here to eat," he said.

His only complaint? The store doesn't stock frozen meatballs. □



In this Thursday Nov. 22, 2018 photo, a customer looks at a table with a projected arrangement at a new Ikea store, in Warsaw, Poland.

Associated Press



In this Thursday Nov. 22, 2018 photo, people visit a new Ikea store, in Warsaw, Poland.

Associated Press